



Unbridled impudence: High fashion among the contestants at the London harness horse parade at Regent's Park, yesterday.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Trapped fox claims rejected

The Masters of Foxhounds Association yesterday rejected claims by the League Against Cruel Sports that a fox had been trapped in a box and released in front of hounds on Ministry of Defence land in Surrey. The association said that the alleged incident occurred in mid-February and was publicized by opponents of hunting on Sunday to try to influence district council debate at the end of the month. (Hugh Clayton writes).

Waverley District Council is to consider a motion calling for a ban on its land. The district includes the Chiddingfold, Leconfield and Cowdray Hunt is said to have released the fox. Mr. Michael Clayton, spokesman for the association, said yesterday: "At least a dozen eyewitnesses have confirmed that the fox was bolted from the earth and was not captured and put in a box."

The capture and release of a fox before hounds would call for disciplinary action by the association.

CBI pressure for heavier lorries

Industrialists in Yorkshire and Humberside have been urged by the Confederation of British Industry to write to their MPs arguing for heavier lorries to be allowed on Britain's roads. The Government has proposed to allow 40 tonne lorries, instead of the present 32.5 tonne limit, but the plans have been opposed by environmentalists.

The CBI says a higher limit will cut fuel and licensing costs and reduce the number of lorries on the road.

Refugee boat people marry

Two Vietnamese boat people who found refuge in Britain were married in Torquay yesterday. Yuan-Thien Cao, aged 22, and his bride My-Oi, aged 23, met and fell in love at a British refugee camp 18 months ago.

Yuan-Thien was at sea in a boat without food or water for four days before being picked up by a British freighter. He said after the wedding: "I am training to be a motor mechanic and we will live wherever there is work."

Mother charged with murder

Mrs Elaine Morris, aged 31, was charged today with murdering her three children: Fiona, aged 10, Alison, aged seven, and Alexander, aged 16 months, at their home in Victoria Road, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancashire, at the weekend.

Mrs Morris, who was divorced five years ago, will appear before Fleetwood magistrates today. She was admitted to Victoria Hospital, Blackpool, in a coma on Sunday.

Princess with a Russian secret

The Princess of Wales yesterday revealed a culinary secret in the Duke of Beaufort's Hunt recipe book which will be on sale at the Badminton Horse Trials on Thursday. She is said to be "very fond" of borscht. Her recipe for the Russian beetroot soup includes the ingredients, but no instructions for cooking them.

Attack charge

Gerald Smith, a police sergeant, aged 32, of Winsley Road, Freshbrook, Swindon, Wiltshire, was remanded in custody for seven days by Swindon magistrates yesterday charged with the attempted murder of WPC Loraine Woolway, aged 24, at her flat in Greenmeadow, Swindon, on Saturday. WPC Woolway suffered knife wounds.

Elver champion

Mr Ian Mould, aged 33, a building worker, from Dursley, Gloucestershire, won the annual elver eating contest at Frampton on Severn yesterday swallowing a pound of fried young eels in 39 seconds. Last year's winner was disqualified for messy eating.

Employment Bill a threat to unity and growth, Nalgo says

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Correspondent

The biggest white collar union in Britain has told its shop stewards that its power to call strikes has been in most circumstances seriously impaired and in some extinguished by the new Employment Bill.

The warning to 30,000 shop stewards and leading union activists from the National and Local Government Officers' Association (Nalgo) comes in an internal bulletin which says that the union faces having its unity bargaining strength and hitherto rapid growth permanently undermined when the Bill, now in committee stage in the House, becomes law. The bill could be seen as one of the greatest threats ever faced by the union.

Intended for consumption within the union, the analysis is the most detailed yet to emerge of the impact of the Bill on an individual union. It is a bleak assessment of what the report itself calls the "incalculable" consequences of the Government's fresh curbs on union power.

The tone of the report is dramatized by the union leadership's desire to impress upon its members the need to join TUC opposition to the Bill. The bulletin says that "most Nalgo members are unaware of the dangers of the Bill."

Nevertheless there is no mistaking the genuine under-

current of anxiety in the hierarchy of the union, the country's fourth biggest, over the impact of the Bill on a union all of whose 782,000 members work in public services, most in local government. The union was at the centre of the closed shop dispute after the case of Miss Joanna Harris, the Sandwell pulpit inspector who refused to join Nalgo and whose subsequent dismissal played a large part in the decision by Mr James Prior, then Secretary of State for employment, to commit himself to further legislation on the closed shop.

The union warns shop

stewards that the increase in compensation available to workers dismissed for refusing to join a union together with the greater risk that the union will itself be "joined" as a party to an action for unfair dismissal means that local union officers should "take the utmost care not to put pressure on employers to dismiss non-members."

It also says that by tightening the definition of a trade dispute in earlier legislation, the Mr Norman Tebbit, the present Secretary of State for Employment, has severely undermined Nalgo's power to take the sort of action in defence of jobs that the union has called in the past.

Action by health service members against private agencies would be outlawed, and the successful one-day strike against the government's proposed sale of gas showrooms might be unlawful because it did not come under the heading of a trade dispute.

The bulletin warns activists against underestimating the damaging implications of the Bill's provisions rendering unions liable for damages after unlawful strikes by members which were "authorized or endorsed by a responsible person in the union". It says that the union's emergency committee might now have to take legal advice every time it is asked to authorize a strike and adds: "If the committee saw the protection of union funds as its primary duty it would tend to authorize requests for industrial action on very rare occasions indeed."

Overall, the bulletin says the Employment Bill threatens to "put the clock back by hampering industrial action over service conditions issues and making it unlawful to strike in defence of the services our members provide". It adds: "It is therefore possible to see it as one of the greatest threats to Nalgo's effectiveness as a trade union in our entire history."

The dangers the union sees

The report predicts that "Strikes 'in defence' of the services in which Nalgo members work, including those against returning nationalized areas to private hands, are likely to be unlawful under the new Act. Damaging splits between the leadership and rank and file might be caused by executive reluctance to call strikes because of liability for damages. The strength of closed shops will diminish while prospects of creating new ones will become 'virtually non-existent'."

Provisions designed to rule out "union labour only" clauses from contracts will favour the use of private contractors on cost grounds and lead to poorer public service wages and conditions. Clauses allowing employers to dismiss selectively with due warning workers who strike "is bound to weaken and undermine all strike action. They are likely also to burden Nalgo with extra costs to support strikers who refuse to return to work after notice has been served."

Parliament's unfinished business:

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Battle looms over Tebbit Bill 'guillotine'

Backbench Conservative MPs are Mr Ron Leighton, who is sponsored by the National Society for Operation of the Bill, and Mr Ian Mikardo, sponsored by the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs.

They kept the committee talking for 40 hours on Clause 1 of the Bill, which will empower the minister to pay compensation to people who lost their jobs as a result of the closed shop provisions of Mr Michael Foot's Trade Union and Labour Relations Act of 1974.

The Government has set aside £2m to compensate about 4,000 people who are thought to have been dismissed for refusing to join a union and at "retrospective justice" made the debate on the closed shop a protracted and acrimonious affair.

The committee is still discussing the closed shop, but has now moved on to the proposed "special award" of up to £20,000 for workers dismissed for non-membership of a union who are not reinstated by an industrial tribunal. Labour MPs regard this as a financial enticement to dissidents to opt out of their union and make closed shops practically inoperable.

However, contentious as the issues are, the real meat of the Bill has not yet been

discussed: the new definition of what is equally a trade dispute; the opening up of union funds to actions for civil damages; the outlawing of labour-only contracts and the fair dismissal of strike leaders.

Nor does it end there. Conscious that this might be the last important industrial relations Bill of the Thatcher administration, employers and politicians are seeking to get in as much as they can. The engineering employers, through Mr Gerrard Neal, the Conservative MP for Cornwall North, are seeking to add new clauses to lay off workers affected by guerrilla stoppages or a national emergency such as a miners strike.

The Conservative Trade Unionists, through Mr Timothy Renton the MP for Timor, Sussex, their president who sits on the committee, want provisions for compulsory secret ballots for national strikes and for trade union officials and the issue of the political levy is still exercising some backbenchers who would like trade unionists to contract-in rather than contract-out of paying the levy to the Labour Party.

The imposition of a guillotine makes it less likely that time will be found for these extra clauses, even though the Secretary of State for

Employment has some sympathy for their aims. They could be written into a final "flag-bag" Bill to be introduced in the next (and perhaps last) session of Parliament.

While the present Parliamentary scene is one of disorder and delay, the TUC has worked out its strategy on opposition to the Bill as it stands now. Firms are being approached to give undertakings that they will not invoke the legislation, and there is an admitted reluctance on the part of some, largely public sector employers, to have anything to do with "Tebbit's law".

None the less, it is scheduled to receive the Royal Assent before the summer recess and after that it will be up to individuals and third parties, as well as firms directly affected, to determine whether it is used.

With Mr James Prior's Employment Act, 1980 the new law will place a very tight legal framework within which trade unions are able to work.

It has been skilfully constructed to render a seven-day strike union boycott ineffective, and to survive the next general election unless labour wins an overall majority and implements its pledge of total repeal.

Tomorrow: The Criminal Justice Bill.

Errors in evidence at Belvoir inquiry

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

A prediction that there will be no room for farming in the East Midlands in 250 years has been struck out of an official report by government agricultural staff. The original version of the document was used by the Country Landowners' Association as part of its evidence against development of the Belvoir coalfield.

The prediction was quoted by Mr Michael Mann, QC, the inspector at the public inquiry into the coalfield plan, in his recommendation to the Government. The report, as submitted by the association, said that by the year 2230 the five counties would be so clogged with urban and industrial development that there would be no room left for farming.

That estimate has been deleted from the latest version of the report, entitled *Agriculture in the East Midlands Region: Progress Report, 1979*. The report was written more than two years ago by Mr H. A. Thomas, a regional agricultural officer with the Government's farm advisory service.

It looks at the whole of the area covered by the National Coal Board's bitterly contested proposal to open three new mines in the Vale of Belvoir. It also takes in most of the existing Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire coalfields.

An official at the Ministry in Whitehall said: "The report differs because it was originally a policy draft which was found by the Ministry to contain a number of errors."

The estimate that farming would have been squeezed out of the six counties in the East Midlands region in about 250 years was based on the assumption that the rate of farmland lost to urban use in recent years would continue. "This is patently unsound because there is no

foundation for the assumption that past trends will continue," the Whitehall official said. He added that it would take too long to identify the other mistakes in the original version of the report.

The Ministry said at the inquiry that it did not oppose the mining in the Vale of Belvoir because it was not in a position "either to express views on need or to suggest alternative sites on lower quality land."

But the impact on agriculture was one of the key points on which Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, differed with Mr Mann about the fate of the mining plan.

Mr Mann took particular care to point out that the agricultural objections to Belvoir were not enough to open three mines in the Vale.

When Mr Heseltine announced last month that he had decided that the proposed three mines would be "environmentally unacceptable," he also rejected Mr Mann's recommendation to allow mining and tipping at the southern site near Asfordby.

Mr Heseltine said that "concern about the disappearance of agricultural land" was "one of the matters that led me to the judgment I have taken on Asfordby, where we are dealing with Class One agricultural land." The Government has been more sympathetic than Mr Mann to the agricultural arguments against Belvoir coalfield.

The Country Landowners' Association argued in the inquiry that the amount of land lost to the coalfield might be twenty times as great as the total suggested by the National Coal Board.

Mr Mann said: "The argument is realistic and convincing."

Watchdogs 'need more teeth'

By Nicholas Timmins

Consumers' councils dealing with nationalized industries should be strengthened, consulted earlier and more fully on policy issues, and in the case of the Electricity Consumers' Council (ECC) should be given statutory status, the ECC said yesterday.

"Where an industry is in a monopoly position, it should be the responsibility of that industry to demonstrate to its consumer council that it is providing value for money in the purest sense," the council said in its response to the Government's consultative document on the future of the consumer's councils.

The electricity industry is both large and strong, with powerful trade unions, and it is vital for a strong consumer voice to be heard, especially at national level," Mr Michael Bates, the council chairman, said yesterday. Providing it with statutory status would help to ensure that.

At present it is the only one of the 44 nationalized industry consumer councils without such status. Providing it would give the council a right to information where now it has to rely on the voluntary provision of information. It would give the council more authority, would force consultation on important policy matters, and would strengthen the council's efforts to have a say in issues which do much to determine the future price of electricity.

At present, the council complains, on some issues it receives too little information too late to be helpful, from both the Electricity Council and more particularly the Central Electricity Generating Board. Sometimes there has been outright refusal to provide information.

On the Government's broader suggestions, the council argues against grouping several councils into a single "watchdog" consumer council covering electricity, gas and coal. Such a council would be too big, too bureaucratic and too remote.

What is needed is a stronger right to full and early consultation on policy issues for all councils.

Response to the Department of Trade's Consultative Document "Consumer Interests and the Nationalized Industries" - Electricity Consumers' Council, 119 Marylebone Road, NW1 5PZ, E1

Union fears on export of plutonium

By Our Labour Correspondent

Leaders of the country's 34,000 power supply engineers are to warn the Government that their crucial support for the nuclear energy programme could be jeopardized if plutonium exported to the United States is used for military purposes.

The Electrical Power Engineers' Association, the politically moderate but industrially powerful union which includes almost all senior engineers and managers, has opposed any move by President Reagan to increase the export of plutonium in his expanding nuclear weapons programme.

The move follows confirmation by the Foreign Office that talks have taken place with the United States Government over the export of plutonium. At the time, in October 1981, the export of plutonium would be for civil use only, the association feared it could indirectly be used for defence purposes.

The United States reportedly needs plutonium from Britain, which has plentiful stocks, for its Clinch River fast breeder reactor project, which is being sponsored by President Carter and then re-authorized by the Reagan administration. It is widely thought that the Americans need to exploit their own production of plutonium, which is a by-product of the nuclear fuel rods, for warheads for new missiles.

The Foreign Office also emphasized last year that exports would be covered by international safeguards laid down by the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna. Plutonium has been sent from Britain to the United States before, as part of the 1,250 kilograms of material reported to a number of countries since 1971.

However, at an unreported session of the conference last week, the union endorsed a resolution urging the Central Electricity Generating Board "to make known its intention to maintain as clearly as possible the distinction between civil and military uses of nuclear materials."

Mr John Lyons, the association's general secretary, is expected to seek a meeting with the board and Mr Nigel Lawson, the Secretary of State for Energy, to outline the union's policy. Mr Lyons is likely to say that the union is far from being unilateralist or anti-American.

Science report

New hope of avoiding rejection

By the Staff of "Nature"

It may be possible to prevent the rejection of transplanted organs by exposing them to high concentrations of oxygen after removal from the donor but before transplantation to the host. That is the conclusion of a study that shows that the rejection of an organ takes place in two steps.

Successful organ transplantation from one unrelated individual to another is hampered by the problem of rejection. Little is yet known about how the white blood cells of the host are triggered to attack and reject transplanted organs, but Dr David Vesole, Dr Gladys Dart, and Dr David Talmage from the University of Colorado, Denver, have now shown that the attack on thyroid gland transplants in mice occurs in two distinct stages and that the critical first step occurs at a site away from the graft.

Dr Vesole and his colleagues found that the host's white cells were first alerted to the presence of foreign tissue. That was not caused by the tissue itself but by passenger cells found within it, most of which were white blood cells. The recognition of those cells initiates the second stage of events, which leads to the destruction of the graft.

By culturing the thyroid tissue in the laboratory under high levels of oxygen and increased pressure for one to two days before transplantation Dr Vesole and his colleagues were able to select out the passenger white blood cells responsible for the first stage of rejection. Instead of being rejected, most thyroid grafts then became established as stable grafts.

This delicate balance in favour of their acceptance, however, could easily be tipped towards rejection. This happened when mice with simple thyroid transplants were injected with activated white blood cells from the spleen of another mouse suggesting that the grafts escaped rejection only because they had no passenger cells with which to activate the host's own white cells.

Dr Vesole and his colleagues therefore believe that rejection begins when the graft's passenger cells migrate to the spleen of lymph node to be confronted by the host's white cells. Without the passenger cells, the graft can remain hidden from attack and hence established in the host. Although it was possible to remove the passenger cells of the mouse, this was done by culturing them in oxygen, it is not clear at this stage whether the technique could be applied to human organs for transplantation.

Source: *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, USA*, Vol. 79, pp. 6266-6270, 1982.

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Chess lead by blind champion confirmed

From Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent

The results of the first seven games of the blind chess championship tournament at the Royal Victoria Hotel, Brighton, have confirmed the current world champion, Kraylov in his leading position in the tournament. His chief rival, Rudensky, fought bravely to save his place, but after some seven hours' play had to concede victory to his opponent.

Kraylov leads with six points, followed by Baric and Jukanovic.

The results for round seven were: Kraylov 6, Rudensky 5, Baric 4, Jukanovic 3, and others.

Overseas selling prices: August 28, 1981, London, 100p; New York, 100p; Tokyo, 100p; etc.

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Israelis accuse Egypt of abetting PLO

From Christopher Walker Jerusalem, April 12

Two weeks before its scheduled withdrawal from the Sinai, the Israeli Government has accused Egypt of abetting the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), of forming closer links with it, and of breaching certain military clauses in the Camp David peace treaty.

An official refused to provide specific details beyond claiming that Egypt and the PLO had formed markedly closer ties in recent weeks. It is understood that Israel has alleged that these include facilitating the smuggling of weapons across the border into the occupied Gaza Strip.

The Israelis have also accused Egypt of breaching the spirit of the treaty during a speech to a conference of non-aligned countries in Kuwait last week, when Egyptian delegate Mr. Ismet Abdel-Meguid, made no reference to Palestinian autonomy, and instead set out a proposal for Palestinian self-determination.

Mr. Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, today told a delegation from the armed services committee of the United States House of Representatives that, while Israel scrupulously observed the Camp David treaty, Egypt did not always do the same. He said Mr. Abdel-Meguid had attacked Israel in the strongest possible terms and it was inconceivable that he was speaking without higher government approval. His speech, Mr. Begin said, violated the clause in the treaty in which Israel and Egypt undertook not to conduct hostile propaganda against each other.

In a related development, Mr. David Levy, the Deputy Prime Minister, said in a speech to young members of his right wing Herut Party that, because of Egypt's unwillingness to accept the peace treaty, the withdrawal from Sinai was delayed, let it be delayed.

The sudden deterioration of Israeli-Egyptian relations has caused concern about Israel's willingness to press ahead with

the Sinai evacuation on April 25.

Today, the allegations against the Egyptian Government were passed formally to Mr. Nicholas Veliotis, a United States Assistant Secretary of State who has begun an initiative to iron out the differences. Mr. Walter Stansel, Deputy Secretary of State, will take over the American diplomatic effort later this week.

After talks this morning between Mr. Veliotis and Mr. Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Foreign Minister, an Israeli official said Israel had expressed determination that the problems with Egypt must be solved before April 25. He refused to say what steps Israel had threatened if the American mission proved unsuccessful.

In diplomatic circles it was noted that accusations about Egyptian collusion with the PLO, particularly its refusal to take action against the PLO office in the Sinai town of El Arish, have been made possible by the puzzle about Israel's precise intentions in bringing them to diplomatic prominence at such a crucial point.

The Israeli official said the request for American diplomatic aid represented serious concern about Egypt's intentions after the Sinai withdrawal. He described Egypt's stand at the non-aligned conference as "very worrying".

Foreign observers thought the Israeli moves were designed to tell the world about the high price the Government feels it is paying for the peace treaty. They were also regarded as an accurate reflection of widespread concern among Israelis over the future of relations with Egypt after the Sinai handover.

In addition to the Israeli complaints about Egyptian attitudes, official negotiations have still failed to resolve 15 outstanding points of difference in demarcation of the border, including the dispute over the resort complex at Taba Bay on the Gulf of Aqaba.



Friends of Reagan to be envoys

From Ivor Davis Los Angeles, April 12

Although stung by criticism that he is appointing too many political friends and supporters as ambassadors, President Reagan will name more, not fewer, such candidates in the months to come.

The Los Angeles Times quotes the White House personnel director, Mr. Pendleton James, as declaring: "The question is not whether we have too many political appointees. We don't have enough. I fight in every case for a political appointee instead of a career officer if the appointee is qualified."

The news will not be sweet music to the ears of the American Foreign Service Association, which has 5,000 active-duty and 2,000 retired career officers on its rolls. The association has charged that the "vast majority" of Reagan appointments are people who are "relatively undistinguished as public figures".

In the Los Angeles Times interview, Mr. James said the political appointees were better ambassadors because they had access to the President and White House officials.

"Let's say you're the host country," he said. "Would you rather have an ambassador who knows the minutiae of the operations of the State Department, such as export quotas, or one who has political contacts and can get a Jim Baker, or Ed Meese or Mike Deaver or Al Haig on the phone and make contact with the President?"

"A career officer won't call Al Haig. He will go through the established hierarchy and his message will be filtered down before it will get to the President."

What has particularly angered the White House is the recent interview of Mr. Malcolm Toon, the former Ambassador in Moscow who accused the Reagan Administration of using diplomatic postings as a dumping ground for defeated politicians and Republican financial backers.

Mr. Toon, a career diplomat who retired three years ago after 30 years in the service, claimed that some of the most important embassies had been placed in the hands of "unqualified amateurs".

He declared that the Ambassador to Britain, Mr. John Louis, a businessman and Republican financial backer, had no qualification for the job except "that he speaks English". He called the Ambassador to Mexico, Mr. John Gavin, "a Hollywood actor, and not a very good one". Of the Ambassador to France, Mr. Eysen Griffin Galbraith, a financier, he noted: "His qualification... is that he speaks French and is a friend of Giscard d'Estaing, who is out of power and is considered the arch-enemy of the man who is running the country."

Mr. James told The Times, however, that the Ambassador to Britain was generally regarded as a serious, hard working man who tried his best to keep up top of his job. He said Embassy staff reported that he worked long hours — and had not gone to London simply for the socializing.

Grenade kills policeman in Bulawayo beer hall

Bulawayo, April 12. — A police officer was killed and three were wounded in a grenade attack on a patrol here in Zimbabwe's second city, a police spokesman said today. At least two civilians were also wounded in the Friday night blast in a suburban beer hall, the spokesman said. He said several people had been arrested in connection with the incident but gave no details.

Five policemen had gone to the beer hall after a report of trouble there, and the grenade was tossed in when they entered, the spokesman said. There was no indication of the motive behind the attack. But there are dissidents in the Matabeleland area, many of them remnants of guerrilla groups who fought in the seven year war in the former Rhodesia.

There have been several

White-masked peace protesters near Basle carry an imitation nuclear bomb and a banner bearing the Biblical message: "Glory to God on high and peace on earth among men." About 11,000 people took part in the Easter peace march. In West Germany, 450,000 joined protests against the planned deployment of the new United States nuclear missiles in Europe. The four days of peace rallies up and down the country came to an end last night with demonstrations in Dortmund, Berlin, Hanover and other cities.

The weekend turnout, despite poor weather which included snow, was hailed as a huge political success by a peace movement spokesman. "The message is that we shall not rest until the deployment of medium-range missiles is stopped", he said.

The spokesman said the attack took place on Saturday morning about three miles from the border post of Nyamapanda in north-eastern Zimbabwe. The driver was named as Reuben Cele, a South African. — Reuters.

Two years of Doe's rule

Liberia's drift to right accelerates

From Godfrey Morrison Monrovia, April 12

Liberia today celebrated Redemption Day, the second anniversary of a military coup in which the former civilian President, William Tolbert, was killed and more than a century of rule by the country's Americo-Liberian elite was swept away.

This West African state, founded by freed American slaves, is still very much under the control of Mr. Samuel Doe, at the time of the coup a master-sergeant but now commander-in-chief and head of state.

Like other members of the People's Redemption Council (PRC) which exercises supreme power here, he is not of Americo-Liberian descent but comes from one of the tribes from the interior, which felt themselves dominated by the Americo-Liberians.

Internationally, the regime got off to an inauspicious start with public executions of members of the previous administration causing widespread condemnation from African neighbours and the international community.

But the coup was locally popular and the PRC appears to remain so, not least because the establishment of a commission to write a new constitution seems to show that it is in earnest in keeping to its timetable for a return to civilian rule in three years time, on April 12, 1985.

When he seized power at the age of 28 Mr. Doe appeared to many observers a somewhat revolutionary, even apocalyptic, figure. Thin and wiry, hollow cheeked, dressed in combat uniform, he would bark out his public pronouncements in a strange, broken English.

Two years later he is distinctly plump and round-faced, affects well-cut business suits, rattles off a prepared text with fluency. The steady drift towards the right accelerated last

August when, after an alleged coup plot had been uncovered, Major-General Thomas Weh Syen, Mr. Doe's deputy, and three other PRC officers were arrested and subsequently executed. They were generally seen as the radical element within the PRC.

The dominant foreign influence here remains the United States and a Libyan order last May that Libya close its Peoples Bureau and that the Soviet Embassy reduce its staff from 15 to six were widely seen as a response to American pressure.

American leverage is easy to understand. "This country is to all intents and purposes broke," was how one economist put it. Without Washington's bilateral aid and assistance from the International Monetary Fund, the economy would cease to function.

Mr. Doe is widely credited here with a genuine desire to get his soldiers back to their barracks, but in restoring civilian rule he has to take into account the wishes of the other members of the PRC and the armed forces.

A principal reason for the coup was that he and his fellow soldiers lived in squalid conditions in squalid barracks while Tolbert and his cronies lived off the fat of the land.

It is no accident that a key element in the United States aid programme is \$4.5m (£2.4m) earmarked for building barracks and living quarters for the Liberian Army. Such are the realities of West African politics.

In a speech marking the second anniversary of military rule Mr. Jackson Doe, advisor to the head of state on national and international affairs, called on the military authorities to stamp out corruption, dishonesty and inefficiency from the public service, which was the prime reason for the coup.

Murdoch offer on 'Daily News'

From Michael Hamlyn New York, April 12

Mr. Rupert Murdoch, publisher of the New York Post, offered a measure of worker participation to his staff, and to the staff of the beleaguered Daily News, in his attempt to get union support for a takeover of the ailing Daily News.

He warned the Allied Printing Trades Council members who had invited him to meet them to discuss his plans for a possible purchase, that the Post and the News "are engaged in a dance of death, which must end in the disappearance of one or both newspapers". To avoid that, he was prepared to come to an agreement with the News Employees' Share Ownership Trust to merge the ownership of the two papers.

The trust was set up by the staff of the Daily News, who committed to it their current pay increases — a total of \$20m (£11m) in the first year. The employees hope that if all else fails the Daily News will be sold to the trust, which present owns the paper, will sell it to them.

The present owners announced at the end of last year that they were putting the paper up for sale because of rapidly growing losses. The company said last week that it had come to an agreement with a Texan millionaire, Mr. Joseph Albritton, provided that he could get the terms he needed from the unions. Mr. Albritton suspended his talks when he heard of the union's approach Mr. Murdoch.

Mr. Murdoch told the trades council today that he would seek immediate savings of labour costs. He said he would cover current operating deficits but would then maintain both titles separately.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Turks free Ecevit

Ankara. — Mr. Bulent Ecevit, the former Turkish Prime Minister, was released yesterday after spending two days in military custody over alleged statements to the foreign press.

Mr. Ecevit, three times Prime Minister in the decade before the 1980 military coup, has already spent two months in jail for giving stories to the foreign press.

70 drown near Rangoon

Rangoon. — More than 70 people are feared to have drowned when a double-decker ferry carrying 200 passengers, livestock and foodstuffs, sank 20 miles south of here.

The ferry had sailed from the Irrawaddy delta town of Hmawza when it hit a sandbank. Officials said 145 bodies had been recovered and 55 others were missing.

Kidnappers release Rome doctor

Rome. — Dr Luigi Amodio, aged 35, a Rome doctor kidnapped two months ago was freed at the weekend after a payment of £350,000.

He was abducted on January 21 by four men who entered his clinic posing as patients. The fate of nine other people kidnapped in Italy this year remains unknown.

New security chief

Khartoum. — Mr. Omer Muhammad Tayeb, Sudan's security chief, was named first vice-president on Sunday by President Nimeiry. The post had been vacant since General Abdul Hamid Khalil was dismissed in January as part of a purge.

Mother seeks spy to track killer

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg, April 12

The mother of a murdered South African academic has flown to the Seychelles in the hope that one of seven alleged mercenaries captured after November's abortive coup may be able to shed some light on the death of her son.

Mrs Jane Turner, whose son, Dr Rick Turner, was murdered while serving a five-year government banning order, wants to question Mr. Martin Dolinchek, a self-confessed South African spy. The murder has never been solved.

Mr. Dolinchek, who has claimed he is a member of the National Intelligence Service, the successor to South Africa's Bureau for State Security (Boss), faced a

departmental investigation after Dr. Turner, a Natal University lecturer, was shot dead at his Durban home in January 1978.

He went to answer a knock at the door late at night and was killed by a single shot fired through a front-room window. The killer has never been traced. Mr. Dolinchek was cleared of any involvement at the departmental inquiry.

Mrs. Turner has flown to the Seychelles to follow up claims made by Mr. Arthur McGiven and Mr. Alexander Lambert, two alleged Boss defectors, in London and Stockholm, that a renegade Boss agent may have killed Dr. Turner. Mr. Dolinchek, is expected to give

evidence for the state in the Seychelles trial of the alleged mercenaries.

The trial of the seven, including one woman, was due to begin tomorrow but was postponed to June 16 in the Seychelles Supreme Court in Port Victoria today. Chief Justice Earle Seaton said that by then it was hoped that the trial in the Natal Supreme Court in Pietermaritzburg of 43 of the mercenaries on charges of air piracy under South African law should be completed.

The Pietermaritzburg trial is due to resume on April 20. Colonel "Mad Mike" Hoare, the group's leader, and 42 others have pleaded not guilty to all the charges.

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FALKLANDS CRISIS

Argentina fails to delay OAS crisis session

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, April 12

The 30-nation Organization of American States (OAS) has agreed to go into special session here this evening on the Falkland Islands crisis. Earlier the OAS delayed the session for the second time in four days to allow American mediation attempts a chance to resolve the dispute.

There was a mood of cautious optimism in Washington today that the shuttle diplomacy by Mr. Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, could prevent an open confrontation between Britain and Argentina over the islands.

However, while there was hope that shooting in the South Atlantic could be avoided, it was recognized that finding a permanent solution to the 149-year dispute over sovereignty was much more difficult.

American officials were uncharacteristically silent about the proposals which Mr. Haig was understood to have taken from Buenos Aires to London, fearing that leaks to the press at this stage could jeopardize his delicate mission.

Sources said the broad terms of the plan being considered by Mr. Haig would fall within the scope of Security Council Resolution 502 and could include:

An Argentine withdrawal and return of the islands to British administration; an exchange for a recall of the British fleet steaming towards the South Atlantic.

The Argentine flag to be kept flying on the islands. The 1,800 islanders to be allowed to choose their own form of government.

The possible deployment of an international peacekeeping force on the islands while a permanent solution is being worked out.

Mrs. Jeane Kirkpatrick, the United States representative at the United Nations, pressed the more hopeful mood prevailing in Washington during a television interview yesterday when she said: "There is a reasonable likelihood that a last-minute sort of resolution may be found to the crisis which will at least avoid war or bloodshed between the two parties."

Several factors have contributed to the more buoyant mood prevailing in Washington. It is felt that the extension of Mr. Haig's mission means that Britain and Argentina are interested in a face-saving compromise which can avoid open hostilities.

Actions and statements by the Government in Buenos Aires are also taken as a sign that the Argentines, surprised by the strength of the British response to the island's seizure and the tough measures taken by Britain's main allies, want a negotiated settlement.

Similarly, officials have noted the relatively moderate tone of statements emanating from Buenos Aires. For example, Mr. Esteban Lakas, the Argentine Ambassador to Washington, appeared on

television today saying his country was very hopeful about a settlement and that Argentina might consider a truce while talks continue.

The British side has been less compromising, but again officials believe that the tone of remarks made by Mr. Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, on British radio and television during the week-end indicated that the British also were keen to see the dispute settled peacefully.

One remark he made has attracted particular attention. Asked about the British insistence that a settlement be acceptable to the Falkland residents, Mr. Pym suggested that their attitudes may have been altered by the trauma of the invasion.

Officials noted that a previous British plan to cede the islands to Argentina and then to lease them back for a certain number of years had failed largely because it had been opposed by the islanders.

Sir Nicholas Henderson, the British Ambassador, appeared on two of the main television networks' morning shows today, restating the British case and pointing to the large grain trade which Argentina enjoys with the Soviet Union. Other members of the embassy staff have also been appearing on other television and radio programmes.

One of them, Mr. Christopher Crabbe, was asked about the islands for Britain: their oil potential, their fishing resources or their strategic value. He replied: "The most important thing for us is that they are British."

Mr. Alexander Haig flew out of a clear blue sky to land at Heathrow airport at 5.42 am, catching several United States Embassy aides and reporters unaware (Our Foreign Staff writes).

His aircraft was originally expected to land at 6.20 am. He looked exhausted when he made a short statement to waiting reporters on the tarmac, telling them that he had brought with him "ideas which have been developed on the basis of United Nations Security Council Resolution 502".

He then sped off along deserted Easter Monday streets to the Churchill Hotel in Portman Square near Marble Arch in the large black Chrysler which he uses on trips to London. After freshening up and eating breakfast he set out for Downing Street where he was greeted at No 10 by Mrs. Margaret Thatcher 9.28 am.

The Secretary of State, who looked less tired than when he arrived, and Mrs. Thatcher, who was wearing a business-like two-piece grey suit, exchanged greetings for the benefit of reporters without their customary smiles.

Just before Mr. Haig arrived, Mr. Francis Pym crossed Downing Street from a Foreign Office with a polite "Good Morning".



Walking the olive branch . . .

Inhospitable islands

Life is tough, even for Land Rovers

If British troops have to land in the Falkland Islands they will find a country which is less hospitable than the people, and one hardly designed for military operations.

The pitted 800-mile coastline provides plenty of inlets for beaching parties, provided that they can steer clear of the matted, rubbery seaweed called kelp which festoons the flat shores and explains the islanders' sobriquet of "kelpers".

But the same inlets are among the assorted hazards which make overland movement arduous and slow, particularly for the islanders themselves who, for an island community, own very few boats. The fact that they are not natural sailors may have something to do with the surrounding seas which are always rough and, to the east, quickly acquire a depth of 100 fathoms.

The water is shallower to the west where the South American continental shelf stretches from Argentina, and the narrow strait dividing the islands is only about six fathoms. But at no point and at no time do the Falklands resemble holiday islands in the sun.

There is a wry saying which the locals reserve for visitors: "If you don't like the weather just stay around for 10 minutes and it should get worse."

There is little snow or frost, but plenty of rain. Winds blow at an average of 20 miles an hour throughout the year and while there are calmer periods some of the time there are stormier seasons too. At this time of

the year there are about five gales a month. The roads in Port Stanley, where about half of the 1,800 islanders reside, are full of potholes.

Although the terrain is mainly flat, soldiers on foot would have to negotiate ravines with mud at the bottom.

Once a week, when the weather is what passes for fine, a light seaplane might land near one of the country settlements with mail. Otherwise, islanders communicate with each other by radio, exchanging family gossip over the air as their main recreation. The constraints placed by the Argentine garrison on their use of radios are thought to be among the restrictions they will most resent.

The runway at Port Stanley is a fairly rudimentary airstrip. Still, troops landing on the Falklands might find life there soft and easy if they have already visited South Georgia, 800 miles south-east, where conditions are sub-Antarctic, with icebergs rather than seaweed cluttering the shore and the mountaintops rarely visible.

All this awaits troops once they have reached the islands. Getting there can be still worse. One naval officer described a voyage from Montevideo to Port Stanley, on which the weather was so bad that his ship was two days late on a four-day trip, as among the most testing he had ever made.

Henry Stanhope

Only 10% against the use of force

Overwhelming support for the Government's stated Falklands policy and repugnance for the loss of life it might involve are contrasted in the following responses in a poll conducted last Thursday by Opinion Research for London Weekend Television's Weekend World programme.

Support for diplomatic means backed by force (figures represent percentages):

Strong support 61
Quite strong support 18
Neither support nor oppose 11
Quite strongly oppose 5
Strongly oppose 5

Support a blockade, lasting at least six months:

Support 75
Oppose 19
Don't know 6

Support for sinking Argentine Navy:

Strongly support 48
Quite strongly support 10
Neither support nor oppose 10
Quite strongly oppose 10
Strongly oppose 12

How many British forces' lives would you be prepared to see lost?

None 67
Under 100 7
Under 1,000 26
Whatever it takes 2
Don't know 6

Would you regard many islanders killed as a price worth paying?

Worth the price 31
Not worth the price 51
Don't know 18

If the islanders were prepared to accept Argentine rule rather than see their lives put at risk:

British should nevertheless use military action 18
British should negotiate 58
British should abandon claims 19
Don't know 5

Voting intention:

Conservative 37
Labour 37
SDP/Liberal Alliance 26

Task force put on war footing in tropics

From John Witherow on board HMS Invincible April 12

Captains of several Royal Navy ships were meeting on board HMS Invincible today to coordinate exercises and bring the fleet to full readiness for war.

The captains of Invincible and the other aircraft carrier Hermes held a council of war last week but this latest meeting will include commanders of the other frigates and vessels in the task force.

Reviewing the situation, one high-ranking officer said: "The programme continues this week with more advanced and more coordinated exercises between the various ships. As each day goes by these efforts are more coordinated." Among the scheduled exercises are feigned attacks by the carriers on one another and these may well now include defensive operations by the missile-carrying frigates.

Unconfirmed reports on the BBC radio news of signs of a diplomatic solution to the crisis were meanwhile greeted with some scepticism and a "wait and see" attitude. "I'm cautiously optimistic," the officer said.

"But as far as we are concerned, we press on and continue preparing for what the Government wants us to do."

Preparations on board the Invincible on Easter Monday against attack were the most intense since the anti-submarine carrier left Portsmouth over a week ago. The use of smoke canisters, thunderclashes and "scare bombs" in addition to a simulated air attack were designed to add an air of realism.

A klaxon over the tannoy at 9 am and the statement: "Action stations, action stations. Assume NBCD State One. Condition Zulu" announced the start of a four-hour exercise in which five enemy aircraft were said to be launching an attack.

The tannoy announced that the ship's Harrier fighters had been scrambled to meet the aggressors and had put several "in the water" but one attacker had slipped through and fired an Exocet missile hitting the ship.

Firefighting teams using breathing apparatus had to make their way down darkened passageways filled with smoke as one-pound scare charges, normally used to deter divers, were dropped overhead to add realistic sound effects.

The tannoy continued to announce the outbreak of fires elsewhere in the ship and the firefighting teams, watched by umpires, had to get there as fast as possible.

Commander Anthony Probert, the second-in-command, who first joined the ship, just before we sailed, described the exercise as "pretty severe" and said the crew would get the idea of the sort of damage the carrier would receive in action. Preparing the ship to withstand attack as best as possible is treated extremely seriously and one senior officer added: "There are many documented incidents of ships which didn't get it right and sank as a consequence, and here are others which got it right and were saved. The programme has been quite excellent. The flying has come together extremely well. They've pulled their act together and indeed advanced in their state of training."

He said that flying off the old type of carriers had been an especially "nerve-racking and high-tension business" but the Harriers could land across the deck and did not always force the carrier to head into the wind during take-off. "It is a new era and a nice one," he added.

"We exercise all the time and start off in a very good state."

World viewpoint

Chileans weigh up Soviet connexion

Five-column headlines in Chilean newspapers on the Falklands dispute have emphasized the country's concern about the situation and the possibility of war (Flores Varas writes from Santiago).

Newspapers and magazines have extensively analyzed the situation over the long Easter holiday, and the conservative daily *El Mercurio* has suggested that the Soviet Union might become directly involved.

In its political analysis the paper stated that the unpredictable diplomatic moves of Senator Nicanor Costa Mendez, the Argentine Foreign Minister, implied a serious break of that country's traditional links with the West and an approach to foreign powers which opened the way to foreign influences in the hemisphere.

El Mercurio commented that Argentine counter-moves had reached an extreme of suggesting that Soviet naval forces would intervene in support of the Argentine occupation of the Falklands.

The latest Argentine governments had had the economic power needed to amplify and diversify their foreign relations and to win the confidence of many countries. "They have made those nations forget that (Argentina) has violated international law, disregarding

the decision of the British Crown in the Beagle arbitration and procrastinating in the case being mediated by the Pope."

"One might overlook the offensive conduct of disregarding the signature and seal of Her Majesty on the document containing the decision which recognized the Chilean right to the islands in the Beagle Channel . . . but it is not possible to condone the illegal occupation of the Malvinas nor dismiss political and juridical reaction in the face of the facts," the paper said, affirming that the two issues were related.

Argentina was forgetting that the Pope had been waiting 16 months for the Argentine answer to his official proposal on the southern dispute with Chile. Argentina had also forgotten that it refused World Court arbitration in the Falklands dispute and that it threatened war in 1978 if Chile sought arbitration at The Hague.

Other Chilean newspapers have expressed concern regarding the economic implications and impact on Chilean foreign trade of a war zone near its borders. Chilean political analysts agree that Chile should act with extreme caution in order to capitalize on the event and to avoid errors of consequence.

Moscow: Brickbats for London and for Bonn

The Russians yesterday stepped up their attacks on Britain over the Falklands, accusing the Conservative Government of being unable to assess the international situation realistically and banking after imperial greatness (Michael Binyon writes from Moscow).

The Soviet Union also strongly denied that the Russians were seeking advantage for themselves in the conflict and denounced the West German Foreign Minister, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, for saying on Saturday that the Soviet Union was encouraging Argentina in an act of violence.

Pravda's London correspondent, in his first substantive report on the affair, said the British Government was showing "an amazing heedlessness of the just demands of the peoples of the developing countries". He said Britain had stubbornly refused to "implement United Nations resolutions on the decolonization of the Falklands and was deliberately delaying negotiations with Argentina."

The paper said the military and diplomatic stir going on in London was being accompanied by a "noisy chauvinistic campaign" in the British press with attempts to prove from opinion polls that the majority of the population supported military confrontation.

It said there was now full military cooperation between Britain and the United States, making the South Atlantic into a full-scale conflict between a developing country and the global strategic interests of the imperial powers.

Meanwhile, Tass said the Americans were pursuing their own interests in the affair, which could strain the situation in Latin America even further. It said many British politicians and organizations were demanding that the Government renounce the use of force in settling the dispute.

In its sharp criticism of Herr Genscher, Tass said his accusations were untrue and he was supporting imperialism by trying to reestablish colonial control in the islands using gunboat diplomacy.

Argentina is the Soviet Union's biggest trading partner in the Third World, and the Russians have expressed concern that the British naval blockade of the islands might disrupt vital Argentine exports of grain and meat to the Soviet Union. Soviet support for Buenos Aires has grown noticeably warmer in the past few days as the Russians have grasped the dimensions and implications of the conflict.

Tokyo: Suzuki 'refusing to impose sanctions'

Mr. Zenko Suzuki, the Japanese Prime Minister, has replied to Mrs. Thatcher's request for full Japanese support against Argentina in the Falklands Islands dispute, according to a Foreign Ministry spokesman (Reuters reports from Tokyo).

The spokesman refused to disclose the contents of Mr. Suzuki's letter but Kyodo, the Japanese news agency, said he had refused to impose economic sanctions against Argentina. He was quoted as saying that Japan's position was that the dispute should be solved at the United Nations.

Earlier yesterday Japan warned Argentina that relations between the two countries, especially economic links, could be damaged unless Argentine troops were withdrawn from the islands in accordance with a Security Council resolution.

The warning was given by Mr. Yoshio Sakurachi, the Japanese Foreign Minister, to Senator Gabriel Nuncio Oliva, the Argentine Ambassador to Japan, ministry officials said.

A spokesman said Mr. Suzuki's letter would be delivered by the Japanese Embassy in London, and a copy was given to Sir Hugh Cortazzi, Britain's Ambassador to Japan.

South Africa denied that it signed a military pact with Argentina and other South American countries, according to Dr. Brand Fourie, Director General of Foreign Affairs and ambassador designate to the United States (Our Johannesburg Correspondent writes).

Reaching a weekend report that such a treaty had been in existence for nearly a decade, he said he had no knowledge of it. Such a treaty has long been mooted by South Africa and was given an urgent thrust when the Simonsburg agreement in 1976. The argument with the British withdrawal from the South Atlantic, based on the use of port by United States warships, the South Atlantic nations should form their own defensive alliance.

Last year, Argentine warships visited Simonsburg and General Mario Benjamín Menéndez, who has been appointed governor of the

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Mediation by UN more likely

By Our Foreign Staff

As politicians and diplomats continue to feel their way towards a Falklands settlement, the possibility of a United Nations role in an eventual solution appeared to increase yesterday.

Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the United Nations Secretary-General, was due back in New York last night after a telephone appeal early on Sunday from Mr. Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State. Mr. Haig called from Buenos Aires before leaving for London.

Señor Pérez de Cuellar said that if Mr. Haig's diplomacy failed, "I hope we will find other ways. The United Nations has many ways of acting." He did not spell out any specific proposals but it is possible that United Nations peacekeeping role might be needed in the Falklands as part of a settlement.

Señor Pérez de Cuellar's reticence was reflected among most United Nations members, who are reluctant to put forth proposals while Mr. Haig's mission continues. One exception is Peru, which has urged an immediate truce of 72 hours by both Britain and Argentina to allow breathing space for a settlement.

Yesterday President José López Portillo of Mexico who supports the Argentine claim to the islands but opposes "the use of force in settling international disputes" what-ever grounds were given to justify it, said that Argentina has a right to "decolonize" the islands.

He proposed a settlement "in line with the law". Señor López Portillo was referring to a United Nations resolution of 1965 which, he said, recognized "the right of the Argentine Republic to decolonize the Malvinas Islands (Falklands)". However, the resolution also upholds the islanders' right to a decisive voice in this issue.



The men in charge: Admiral Sir John Fieldhouse, Commander-in-chief Fleet, and his staff yesterday at HMS Warrior, Northwood, Middlesex. Left to right: Vice-Admiral Peter Herbert; Major-General Jeremy Moore (Major-General Royal Marines Commando Force); Admiral Fieldhouse; Vice-Admiral David Halifax (Chief of Staff to C in C); Air-Marshal Sir John Curtis (AOC No 18 Group, RAF); and Rear-Admiral Peter Hamersley (Chief of Staff, Engineering).

P & O prepare bill of millions

By Nicholas Timmins

P & O, which is likely to present the Government with a bill for several million pounds in compensation when the Falkland Islands crisis is over, said yesterday that adult passengers and children deprived of cruises have been very understanding over the Government's requisitioning of their ships.

"We have had no complaints at all directed at us," a spokesman for the shipping line said yesterday. "People appreciate our position and have been extremely understanding."

The 3,000 or so passengers due to go on cruises on the Canberra up to June 11, which have now been cancelled, have been offered the choice of a later booking on the Canberra, a refund, or a cruise on the Sea Princess, a luxury 28,000-tonne cruise

ship providentially brought to European waters from Australia for the first time, prior to Canberra being requisitioned. It is due to start sailing from Southampton in mid-May.

Its holidays are appreciably more expensive than those on Canberra, but while passengers will have to pay more if they transfer, P & O is offering discounts of between £50 and £200 on the normal price, depending on the length of cruise, if that option is taken.

Less lucky are children who have lost educational cruises on the Uganda. The 940 children on the current cruise are due to dock on Naples today, losing four days of a 14-day trip, when they and the 315 adults on board will be flown to Garwick, allowing the Uganda

to be covered in Gibraltar to a hospital ship. They are being offered money back pro-rata for the lost days, and the Uganda's next cruise on April 17 has been cancelled. "For the children it is bad news," a P & O spokesman said. "The Uganda is the only ship of its kind in the world and is usually booked a long time ahead". P & O will decide this week how much further ahead to cancel cruises, and will work out what space may be available on future cruises as an alternative to refunds.

The requisitioning of the roll-off ferry the Elk has meant that P & O has had to re-route cargo through its other ports.

The shipping line said it has still to agree terms with the Government for the requisitioning of the ships.

OIL SHOWS LITTLE PROMISE

Washington, April 12. — Offshore oil exploration in the vicinity of the Falkland Islands has not disclosed any major reserves, according to a report today by Petroleum Information International, an oil industry publication.

In 1975 a United States Geological Survey report estimated the area's potential could total between 40 million and 200 million barrels of oil, but there has been little exploration, according to the weekly newsletter.

It said the most successful well in the area was drilled last year by Esso, 130 miles north-east of Rio Grande on the tip of Argentina. The well, one of 13 drilled by Esso, produced 3,000 barrels of oil a day but was rated non-commercial and abandoned. Reuters.

Handwritten text in Arabic script: "سكوت الالصل"

Britain's drink problem and the rivals who think they can cure it, by Caroline Moorehead

Are you drinking too much? How would you know if you were? If you can answer yes to two or more of the following, you have good cause for anxiety.

- 1 Do you need to drink to give you confidence: are you the person who drinks before you go to the party?
- 2 Do you drink more than you did when you are alone, particularly when you are depressed, miserable or worried?
- 3 Do you start drinking earlier and earlier each day?
- 4 Do you find that you drink embarrassingly quickly and have finished your drink long before those around you?
- 5 Do you order yourself a double when the rest of the party are drinking singles, or do you order yourself a quick extra drink while collecting an order from the bar?

- 6 Do you order two bottles of wine when three of you sit down to lunch?
- 7 Do you have an uneasy feeling that you are drinking too much; that you no longer have control over your drinking; that you can no longer take it or leave it?

- 8 Do you feel shame when you remember behaviour after a drinking session?
- 9 Do you conceal from your spouse or friends the amount you drink?
- 10 Do you have time off work because of drinking, or has your work performance suffered because of alcohol?
- 11 Do your family and friends express concern over the amount you drink?
- 12 Have the been family quarrels

- 13 because of your drinking? Are you becoming difficult, irritable or testy after drinking?
- 14 Have you had an accident because of your drinking?
- 15 Has your sexual drive and ability suffered because of your drinking?
- 16 Do you find that your memory is getting worse? Have you ever had loss of memory after a heavy drinking session?

The unacceptable side of 'just one more drink'

"Being sober is fun" says a poster that hangs by the entrance to the offices of the anti-alcoholism group, ACCEPT, in part of what was once London's Western Hospital. Underneath two men are gazing out, laughing hilariously. The problem is that growing numbers of people each year don't find it much fun, preferring to risk the many psychological and physical disorders that come with alcoholism (liver disease, loss of memory, cirrhosis, hepatitis, heart illness and so on) to doing without drink.

It is now thought that there are 500,000 dependent drinkers in Britain alone with a further million to 1.2m with serious drinking problems. The consumption of drink has in fact risen so dramatically throughout the world in the past 10 years that some doctors now speak of alcoholism as an epidemic, possibly even a cyclical one which, according to one analysis, is likely to peak in 1990. No one knows why the world has turned to drink: certainly the relative drop in cost of alcohol plays an enormous part, but so, say the experts, have advertising, extended licensing laws and the availability of alcohol in supermarkets.

Some aspects of modern alcoholism are particularly striking. Women, low drinkers until 10 years ago — except for at some moments during the past century — are now rising sharply. Alcoholism, which was five times more prevalent in men than in women, is now only twice as common.

Alcoholics are also getting younger. Drinking among the young has not been very marked this century, except in New York where the Bellevue Hospital records for the turn of the century show

large numbers of teenage alcoholic inmates) and until recently Alcoholics Anonymous had virtually no young members. Their most recent survey, however, shows 11.2 per cent under 30. ACCEPT says that its clients' average age has fallen from between 40 to 60 five years ago to 25 to 37 today.

Where can an alcoholic go? As recently as 15 years ago a patient with a serious drinking problem would be offered an inpatient bed in which to dry out. If he refused to take it he was considered "insufficiently motivated" and shown the door. Since then, partly because of the influence of American research, and the feeling that six weeks in hospital does not teach people to cope with their normal lives sober (and turns them, instead into "treatment junkies"), the emphasis has now swung towards skilled out-patient day care.

Here an alcoholic (the word alcoholism has in fact largely been abandoned in favour of the less perjorative sounding "alcohol misuse" or "dependency") is not merely helped to give up drink but undergoes a wide and supportive treatment of psychotherapy, designed to teach him to live without depending on drink. Heavy drinking, say the experts, cannot be viewed on its own: it has to be understood and treated in the context of the many physical, legal, marital and emotional problems of which it is part.

No doctor today questions the need for thorough counselling. Where there is disagreement is over the issue of abstinence. Must an alcoholic give up alcohol for ever? Yes, says the bulk of the medical profession: there is no return to safe drinking. No, say a few fans of

Controlled Drinking, pointing to former alcoholics surviving on two whiskeys a day. These reply the abstinence school, are exceptions, and probably not genuine addicts in the first place. Controlled drinking has a place — but only among people who have not yet become dependent.

Outside the medical services, running alongside and treated by them with a mixture of awe and disregard, are Alcoholics Anonymous, the vast, sprawling, godly organization which started a whole method of mutual help tactics, which have turned out with hindsight to be nothing other than respected psychological principles. Members are taught not to feel guilty, to set themselves small goals and to build up their own self esteem.

There is a newer and as yet tentative move towards prevention. ACCEPT, part of whose funding comes from industry, is run by an American management consultant called Charles Vetter. He has devised an early warning screening service for some of the 200 firms on his books, and sets out to catch about-to-be alcoholics before they have grown so dependent as to lose their jobs. He is not helped by the inherently hidden nature of the problem in that alcoholics are extremely loathe to declare themselves such until the point of no return has been passed.

Whether or not, as some doctors suggest, the epidemic is slowing down, vast efforts are now beginning to be made to check it. In France, there is a stylish advertising campaign promoting the beauties of a healthy, drink-free life, and in New York today the smartest drink is said to be Perrier, ice and lime.



HOW IT ALL TOTS UP

- In Britain we are drinking: 2 times more beer, 3 times more wine, 5 times more spirits than 20 years ago. In 1978 as a nation we spent £7500m on alcohol — more than on fuel and light and nearly as much as on clothes and shoes.
- Of the estimated 800,000 accidents that take place in homes each year, 65 per cent are caused either totally or largely by alcohol.
- Conviction for drinking and driving in England and Wales doubled between 1971 and 1978.
- 20,000 people are admitted to psychiatric hospitals annually for alcoholism. This has risen 25 times in 25 years and now accounts for 10 per cent of the total.
- Women are now drinking more than they did and problem drinking among women is approaching the male rate.
- The amount of alcohol consumed is the important factor: drinking only one type of alcohol; not mixing the grape and the grain; and other rules are irrelevant, but the type of drink may alter the effect of the hangover.
- Women will develop symptoms of liver damage earlier and are less likely to show improvement when drinking is discontinued.
- Over-indulgence in alcohol results in damage to the nervous system, the heart, the liver, the gastrointestinal tract and the sexual organs.
- Moderate to heavy drinking can have an effect on the unborn child.
- After subjecting the brain to heavy alcohol for an unreasonable time, it will show atrophy, producing personality changes, such as irritability, aggression, paranoia, sloth and irresponsible behaviour. In the advanced stage of mental deterioration, patients may lose their memory completely, become demented and make up fantasies to compensate for failure to remember reality.
- Liver failure is difficult to spot in its early stages and can only be detected by laboratory investigations. The first sign may be a rapid falling off of alcohol tolerance and patients will find they require smaller and smaller quantities of alcohol to become drunk.
- The commonest sign of chronic alcoholism is gastritis, giving rise to nausea and vomiting in the morning.
- Alcohol results in poor sexual performance — dryness in women and impotence in men.

Abstinence or control?

Of the two main schools of treatment for alcoholism which suffers from an appalling confusion of terminology — abstinence is the dominant one. Research has shown overwhelmingly that drinkers who are heavily dependent on alcohol to survive in day to day life can never successfully switch to "social" drinking. Any compromise invariably leads to heavy drinking. The only ultimate cure is to stop altogether, having learned to live happily without the need to drink.

Within this school there are: □ Inpatient Alcoholic Dependence Units, of which there are 26 in Britain, at least one in each regional health authority. They have a total of some 700 beds and a long list of people awaiting admission. Treatment, which lasts three weeks to three months, includes various kinds of group therapy.

□ Outpatient treatment, such as: (i) ACCEPT: a multidisciplinary team, dealing with all aspects of compulsive drinking, from the physical and psychological disorders that go with it, to providing a project for finding jobs for ex-alcoholics. Based in a wing in the now-disused Western Hospital in Hammersmith with a full-time staff of all 11 and 70 volunteers (some ex-alcoholics).

Funded 25 per cent by the DMSS, the rest of their money comes from industry and donations. Treatment, which is free, lasts one day a week for two weeks, then once a week for up to two years.

(ii) The Maudsley Hospital in South London, where 300-400 people every year are given personal assessment for their particular misuse of alcohol, then a precise and again very personal programme of how to deal with it while attending the hospital as an outpatient. □ Hostels or "halfway" homes run by voluntary organizations, sometimes

together with local authorities, where people live in supportive communities and have to agree not to drink. At the end of 1978 there were approximately 61 hostels providing 800 beds mostly for the chronic homes.

□ Alcoholics Anonymous, founded in 1935 in America by a New York stockbroker and an Ohio surgeon, now has over one million members in 104 countries. Only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking and an understanding to remain sober and pass the AA message. Despite assertions to the contrary, has a strong Christian evangelizing image. Members adhere to 12 traditions and follow 12 steps, many of which have a reference to some greater "power".

Controlled Drinking is a fast-growing alternative to abstinence. It is a highly controversial school which argues that alcoholics can be taught to return to "sensible" drinking. Success rates questionable for all but drinkers who are not actually addicted to alcohol.

Drinkwatchers is the only controlled drinking programme running in Britain which attempts to catch heavy drinkers before they become dependent alcoholics. First group formed in September 1981. Clients are screened, then given a medical check up at Charing Cross Hospital, which is taking part in the experiment.

If deemed suitable, they are put on a one evening a week, for 12 weeks, programme in which they are taught to be aware of the alcohol content of drinks; to keep a drinking diary and to set themselves goals (less than three pints of beer a day or 6 glasses of wine); to master new skills (sip rather than gulp, alternate soft drinks with alcoholic ones; dilute generously; order half rather than full pints); to handle social pressures without relying on drink. Treatment costs £2.50 per session.

THE ARTS

Galleries: John Russell Taylor in Spain, Paddy Kitchen in London

A painter who never ceases to astonish and delight

Television: Chance to reflect

"In the depths of a mirror, a tiny figure in blue, and behind him another, just visible in red, looking out at us... One is a self-portrait, but we don't know which. There is a secret weapon available to documentary-makers of the traditional sort, and it is called good writing. Nothing else could have sustained David Thompson's quick-paced, almost art-historical will of the wisp in *A Mirror in Time* (BBC2). The Arnolfini marriage was just the start of the puzzle, which quickly revealed itself to be of the kind that scholars find satisfyingly insoluble. Hints, possibilities, comparisons, coincidences were all we had to piece together "the extraordinary story of the brothers who changed the capabilities of painting".

The story did not seem extraordinary, presumably because Thompson signally failed to piece it together. "There's so little evidence for what Van Eyck's art was like in the 1400s that we have to guess what kind of art he may have looked at..." Was this tall brown house his? When did he marry? Where was he born?

We were shown a map-monde which might possibly have resembled one he painted for a duke. We were shown a naked bride — seen in a mirror as part of a painting which was itself a detail of a painting done centuries later by someone else. Once, goaded by endurance by intractable fact, Thompson resorted to critical ju-jitsu: if a painting seemed out of character, that was because we underestimated his range.

Very nicely put.

El Greco de Toledo

Museo del Prado, Madrid

El Toledo de El Greco

Hospital de Tavera/Iglesia de San Pedro Martir, Toledo

The extraordinary thing about El Greco is that, the more you see of him, the more extraordinary he becomes. Somehow you never get used to him, and, just when you think you have at least got his measure, he always manages to pull some further surprise on you. No, do you get excited even given his propensity for repeating his favourite compositions (or perhaps they were the favourites of his patrons) over and over again, there is always some new twist, some new insight, which keeps you ready for yet another series of *Apostles*, yet another *Holy Family* or *Expulsion from the Temple*. I can speak with particular feeling on this point because I have just been undergoing a total blitz of El Greco in Spain: not

only the ambitious Spanish-American exhibition El Greco de Toledo, credibly said to be the biggest and best ever, which is on at its first venue, the Prado, until June 6 (after which Washington, Toledo, Ohio — obviously! — and Dallas), but also the large counterpart exhibition in Toledo until June, El Toledo de El Greco, and the obligatory visits while in Toledo to El Greco's house and the Cathedral, and to *The Burial of the Count of Orgaz*, now admirably conserved and shown in an air-conditioned annex to the Church of San Tome.

If that did not bring on a severe attack of aesthetic indigestion, I do not know what would. And yet the astonishment is continuous and abiding. We all know, for example, that El Greco is supposed to be so unbalanced by modern. But even when you know that, the actuality of a painting like the large *Prospect and Map of Toledo*, with its boldly sketched bird's-eye view of the city, the brusque dramatic force, shortened figures in the foreground and the angels tumbling arbitrarily about the sky, is breathtaking. If it had been painted yesterday we would all be delighted, but nobody would be surprised. The same, exactly, goes for Washington's wondrous *Laocöon*, a mysterious, dramatic and quite natural-

seeming composition (for all its proto-baroque intricacy) set, yet again, against a stormy view of Toledo. And as for the bold abstraction of the *St. Peter* painting, as sketched as the *Mary Magdalen in Penitence* of 1580-85, which is already recognizable as an El Greco in its vertical elongation and its boldly expressionistic background, there is still something conventionally saccharine about the face and the attitude.

But by this time he had settled in Toledo. To judge by the numerous works of Juan Correa de Vivar, the most important figure of the previous generation of Toledo painters, showing in the Toledo exhibition, it cannot have been much of a challenge: Correa is a perfectly respectable painter, but though he died in 1566 he could be a full century earlier than even early El Greco in style. Obviously El Greco must have been of an obsessively independent disposition, and the benefit of being in, by European standards, something of a backwater must have been that he could do what he liked, develop in his own way without regard to what might be going on elsewhere, and impose himself on a public which had relatively little to measure him by.

Which he did with a vengeance. You would be

vaguely in Veronese country, such as hundreds of minor masters of the day might have produced. Even when we go up to his painting, as sketched as the *Mary Magdalen in Penitence* of 1580-85, which is already recognizable as an El Greco in its vertical elongation and its boldly expressionistic background, there is still something conventionally saccharine about the face and the attitude.

From this moment on in El Greco's career it is difficult not to slip into a catalogue of wonders. Some of them quite unfamiliar, like the weird *Allegory of the Camaldolese Order*, with two conventional figures at the bottom and a large aerial view of the circular garden with the order's separate hermitages scattered about it up above. Others familiar, but none the less, like the great *Frax Hortensae* Fair, *Paranico*, not only speak with unparalleled directness across the centuries but manage impeccably the always precarious balance between achieving a degree of formal monumentality and preserving a true feeling of the man within the formal trappings. When El Greco's grandees are worldly, we know it when they are holy, we believe it. Though even the most beautiful of all *Saint Sebastians*.

You still have to go to Toledo to see *The Burial of*

the *Count of Orgaz* (too large or too fragile, presumably, to travel), which for all its familiarity in reproduction remains overwhelming in the original. And one of the world's great paintings. Also in the Toledo show you can see one of the most wonderful *Baptisms*, and some sculptures by El Greco, including a complex figure-composition very like something from one of his paintings, only in three dimensions, and a very peculiar pair of naked (rather than nude) figures supposed to be of the *Epimenides and Pandora*, which even at this distance of time take one aback with their immediacy, intimacy and vulnerability.

And I have not even mentioned the portraits. Like everything else, they get stronger and more vivid as El Greco gets older. The later ones, like that of *Frax Hortensae* Fair, *Paranico*, not only speak with unparalleled directness across the centuries but manage impeccably the always precarious balance between achieving a degree of formal monumentality and preserving a true feeling of the man within the formal trappings. When El Greco's grandees are worldly, we know it when they are holy, we believe it. Though even the most beautiful of all *Saint Sebastians*.

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Kahlo's defiance in "Self-Portrait with Cropped Hair"

Frida Kahlo and Tina Modotti

Whitechapel

"The art of Frida Kahlo is a ribbon around a bomb", summed up André Breton after visiting her in Mexico in 1938. The bomb contained passion, pride and intolerable pain, and the bright ribbon was painted with an husband, Diego Rivera, developed his celebrated murals depicting the entire history of Mexico. Frida Kahlo exposed her interior life and made surreal X-rays of her heart.

Her self-absorption was, to a great extent, dictated by her physical condition. At the age of 17 she had a severe road accident, which left her unable to walk for three years, and accounted for around thirty operations before her death in her mid-forties. Confined so often to bed (where, indeed, she first started to paint), she could seldom escape awareness of her body. At its most torment-

The inescapable awareness of bodily self

ing, this produced work like *The Broken Column*, in which she saw herself half-naked, a ruptured stone column in the fissure where her spine should be, and her torso bound by surgical straps while her flesh, including the face and breasts, was lightly pierced with scattered nails. But any notion that this image might seem a bathetic echo of a Renaissance St Sebastian or crucifixion is removed by Kahlo's stance and expression. The exhibition is dominated by her strong, mysterious face. Both in the complex, surreal compositions, and the more straightforward self-portraits, her thick eyebrows, which met in the middle like a child's drawing of a raven in flight, seem to dramatize the challenge in her eyes.

Intensely aware of her own appearance, she concealed her deformity and emphasized her Mexicaness by wearing Tehuana costume and heavy jewelry, in some of the paintings these decorations are as much the subject of the picture as the woman herself. The tender side of

her nature perhaps showed most in her treatment of animals and plants. In one self-portrait a spider monkey's arm encircles her neck, and in *The Chick* a newly-hatched bird is dwarfed by a vase of blue flowers over which spiders have spread their webs, among which caterpillars and a cicada lurk. It was, however, her relationship with Rivera that engendered the most memorable paintings. Her portrait of them together two years after their marriage — she is demure, he uneasily posed — has an ingenious air, which makes the impact of *A Few Small Snips* and *Self-Portrait with Cropped Hair*, painted later, all the more shocking. The first represents her feelings after Rivera was unfaithful to her, and shows a man making random incisions into a woman's body with a pair of scissors. The second was painted after he left her for a time, and shows her sitting defiantly in a chair, wearing a man's suit, her long black hair in shreds across the floor.

These are not stunning paintings in a painterly sense, but they are

stunning both as images and as a method of relating intense passages of autobiography. Although Kahlo received no formal training, she soon developed a technique that entirely suited her subject matter and which has much more impact than the style of the naive painters she superficially resembles.

Sharing the upstairs gallery at the Whitechapel (until May 2) with Kahlo is an exhibition of photographs by Tina Modotti, an Italian whose nomadic life included long spells in Mexico. The formal, classical style of photography which she learnt from the American photographer Edward Weston was extended but never rejected, during her involvement with Mexican politics. Rivera and Orozco commissioned her to record their murals, and she remained in Mexico for several years, photographing both human subjects such as *Misery* (two derelict women) and *Hands of a Puppeteer* and geometrical compositions of emblematic subjects, in *Banana-Lier, Guitar and Corn-cob*. They are very fine photographs indeed.

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Don't snipe at the Foreign Office, go for the politicians instead

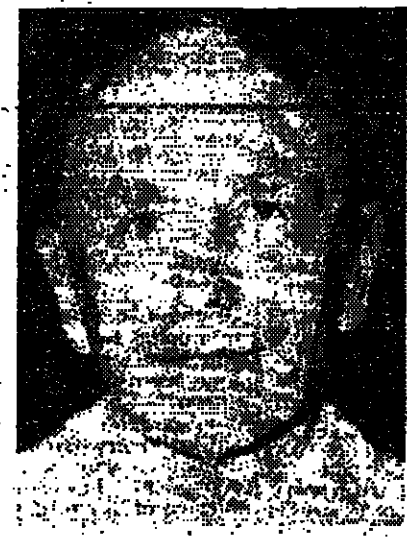
In his article in *The Times* on April 8, Ronald Butt laid two charges against the Foreign Office. The first was that in foreign policy over the years officials had deliberately discarded morality in favour of expediency; the second, that they had conditioned successive foreign secretaries to neglect the relationship between diplomacy and defence.

On the first of these accusations, where is his evidence? If I remember correctly, it was the Foreign Office officials Vansittart and Wigram who were identified as arguing most forcibly against Hitler and Mussolini.

At the time of the Suez operation, it was widely known that many officials argued that to proceed with the kind of military plan which was proposed would leave a moral stigma on Britain.

Foreign Office officials have often been labelled pro-Arab and anti-Israel, but I have never known one who did not insist upon the inviolability of the State of Israel. So it is with South Africa. If arguments of expediency had prevailed, the Royal Navy would still be in Simonstown, and 3,000 miles nearer the Falkland Islands, but those considerations were rejected in favour of sustaining a principle.

Within my recollection the task was given to the Foreign Office officials to prepare with their opposite numbers from overseas the draft to be embodied in the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference. Against much opposition, they insisted that it should contain (1) acceptance by the signatories of human rights and (2) inclusion of that rule in the Charter of the United Nations which insists on non-interference by one country



Lord Home of the Hirsell, former Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary, replies to Ronald Butt's criticism of the official handling of the events leading up to the invasion of the Falkland Islands

in the internal affairs of another.

In international affairs, where there are so many motives and beams, it is not always easy to detect a moral content, but historically it is impossible to sustain the charge that Foreign Office officials never admit that there is a point beyond which diplomacy cannot go and other means have to be employed.

That is certainly true of the Falkland Islands dispute. No one will doubt that the Foreign Office was right to try for a negotiated settlement. Equally all must concede that the moral case which any particular proposal had to pass was that it must be acceptable to the Falkland Islanders. That condition was strictly preserved by all Foreign Office officials and ministers. At that point, to borrow Mr Butt's phrase, "the Foreign Office dug in its toes".

As to the solutions which were canvassed, namely condominium or a lease-back of sovereignty, they cannot in themselves have been reprehensible as they are virtually the same as those being considered

now after force has been used to back diplomacy.

No two situations with which the Foreign Office is called to deal are alike, and few, if any, of the solutions to the deadlock are plain. There are bound to be what Dr Runcie lately called "ethical ambiguities" in free societies.

If, for example, the purely moral test was to be applied, there would be a strong case for ejecting the Soviet Union from the United Nations for breaching the Charter. It could come to that, but so far there has been a majority among the democracies in favour of trying all reasonable means to wean her away from her practice of subversion and the use of force in support of political aims.

The failure in the case of the Falklands was not that diplomacy was tried and tried again but that an error was made (in which others were concerned as well as the Foreign Office) as to the degree of visible force which

could have deterred the dictator bent on an operation of snatch and grab. That was not a moral, but a military calculation. It was for that misjudgment in this particular case that Lord Carrington and others paid the penalty.

One lesson has been reinforced, that dictators never play by the rules which democracies observe. Doubtless Mr Butt will not begrudge the Foreign Office the very substantial diplomatic achievements which have occurred in recent days. To have mobilized the Security Council, the European Community, the Commonwealth and the United States on Britain's side shows that there is still influence and authority in British diplomacy.

One further thought strikes me. In a free society, no one and nothing should be cocooned against criticism, but scrupulous care should be taken to select, where possible, the politicians rather than the officials. The former can answer back, the latter cannot; and if their case goes by default, the morale of their service can sink.

I recall in this context a conversation with Mr Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, on the merits of sporting guns. After a time, Mrs Gromyko chipped in and said: "If you buy a gun for my son, buy a better gun than you do for my husband, for my son allows the ducks to rise off the water".

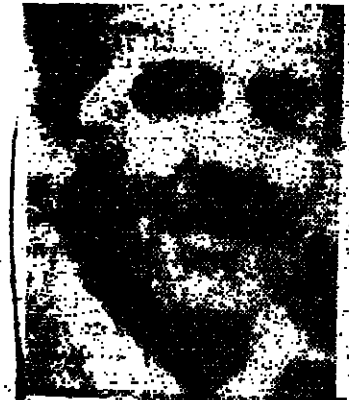
Officials are sitting ducks. With any future shot Mr Butt may fire, I hope his target will be the politician and his model the younger of the Gromykos.

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In Sir Ian McGeoch's article on the Falklands crisis last Tuesday the quotation attributed to General Smeaton should have been attributed to Nathan Bedford Forrest.



Peach: died April 79



Kelly: died June 79



Prosser: died August '80

The legal lesson of these three men's deaths

by Michael Meacher

Despite the acquittal last month of the three prison officers charged with the murder of Barry Prosser at Winson Green prison in Birmingham, widespread disquiet still exists about the whole episode. A local MP has called for a public inquiry. Four civil liberties organizations have just asked the Home Secretary to reopen the matter, particularly to examine again the adequacy of the procedures for dealing with deaths in custody.

In the period 1970-80 there were 336 deaths in police custody in England and Wales. In addition, during the similar period 1969-79, there were 631 deaths in prison of which 226, as determined by an inquest, were due to unnatural causes or suicide. Of both these totals, only a small number of cases have aroused concern as to whether death might have been due to violence or neglect. But in these cases the procedure has on several counts been very disquieting.

The basic problem is that coroners' inquests at present follow almost none of the rules designed to ensure justice in all other courts. The coroner himself, not the interested parties, decides what evidence to call, and he alone can address the jury, and often virtually directs the verdict. The police lawyers have all the witnesses, while the lawyers of the other interested parties have nothing comparable with which to test the police evidence. And however eccentric the coroner's view of the law or of the evidence, there is no right of appeal.

Perhaps the most serious deficiencies, however, are the denial of legal aid and the denial of access to the police investigator's report for both the family and representatives of the family concerned. Without legal aid, interested parties are not usually in a position to be represented at inquests, even where the police or other official bodies have such representation.

The difficulties are illustrated by the inquest into the death of Blair Peach, killed during the Southall National Front demonstration in 1979. Legal costs for his friends and family totalled nearly £20,000, while legal representation for the Metropolitan Police came out of taxpayers' money.

Even such legal representation, however, is of little value without access to the police investigator's report and all the relevant pathological evidence. At the inquest into the death of the family's barrister, the report was withheld, on the ground of confidentiality.

Nevertheless, even if these reforms were to be made, there are still serious drawbacks inherent in the inquest system as a means of examining such sensitive episodes as deaths in custody where there may be suspicious circumstances. Coroners do not necessarily have the background to handle this kind of highly charged case.

For example, at the inquest into the death of a young black person in January 1981, the coroner took no written notes during the whole of the proceedings.

Perhaps the most valuable reform would be to establish a two-tier process. First, a filter mechanism would separate off those relatively few cases where there was *prima facie* evidence of violence or neglect in custody. The remainder, the great majority of cases, could still appropriately be handled by coroners, though the several improvements in procedure mentioned here do need to be made. But the former cases should be dealt with by a High Court judge, as in the case of the death of a High Court judge.

This should ensure a thorough and proper hearing of the matter, with both sides able to call witnesses and to present their evidence in their own way, and with both sides and the jury having full access to all the relevant evidence. For it is this issue of liability, which lies at the heart of the uneasy relationship between coroners' courts and other courts. What is needed is a halfway house: between the normal uncontested inquest without suspicious circumstances and a full-scale criminal trial where the defendant has been charged with a specific and serious offence.

If the *causes celebres* of the last few years have shown anything, it is this gap in the English legal system which urgently needs filling.

The author is Labour MP for Oldham, West.

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In the camp where they learn to love Khomeini

by Robert Fisk



Iraqis in Parandak camp: obedience to the Ayatollah

Parandak POW Camp, Northern Iran

The Iraqi prisoners sat cross-legged on the windy parade ground, many of them with new, well-trimmed beards, all of them wearing around their necks a coloured portrait of Ayatollah Khomeini. They were intent men with eyes which moved in a way that only captivity can control, glancing at each other nervously and then staring with near-gratitude at their prison guards. They sat in lines a quarter mile-deep—all 14,000 of them—awed by the enormity of their surrender, when Iran's Army Chief of Staff, grey-haired and bespectacled, almost avuncular, told them of Iraq's supposedly moral iniquities, the Iraqis roared back: "Down with Saddam Hussein."

It was not brainwashing in the normally accepted use of the term. It was scarcely indoctrination. But there could be no doubt what the Iraqis were trying to do at Parandak: to make Saddam Hussein's own soldiers more dangerous to his Baathist regime than the Iranian army which is fighting its way towards the Iraqi frontier. When Khomeini's name was mentioned, it echoed over the massive parade ground, repeated by the thousands of Iraqi soldiers who then knelt in prayer and homage to the Islamic faith which overthrew the Shah.

True, there were some dissidents among the Iraqi troops, men who still retained their political as well as their national identity. At the far back of one line of older prisoners—civilians now for more than a year—an Iraqi soldier turned and shouted: "Saddam is a very good man," and a few of his colleagues nodded in agreement. "The soldier did not say 'Saddam', he was great," "Salam", remarked an Iranian official with the confidence that comes only from mendacity.

A few hundred prisoners refused to pray—they had probably not washed before prayer, added the official: "They have not been purified." But they will be, or so Ayatollah Khomeini firmly believes. From his residence in North Tehran, the man who still personifies Iran's revolution has given specific instructions that Iraqi prisoners of war are to be well treated and given all the rights of captive soldiers. They are paid between eight and 60 Swiss francs per day in wages, and—according to the Iraqis—have been individually contacted by the Red Cross and allowed to send letters to their families in Iraq. Their guards—in red striped trousers, red military police hats and white neckerchiefs—are among the smartest soldiers in Iran; model

troops for a model prisoner of war camp. The Iraqis are meant to be impressed.

Apparently there have been no attempts to escape across the double wall of barbed wire that surrounds the camp. "The prisoners are glad to be alive," said an Iranian from the Ministry of National Guidance. He neglected to mention that the captives were being held far from the battlefield, beneath the breezy mountains of the Alborz range, 350 miles from the Iraqi frontier.

They were lectured for more than an hour in Arabic by Iranian mullahs who welcomed them as brothers and by Iranian army officers who said that the United States, France, Britain and other Western nations had prompted Iraq's attack on Iran. There were no contradictions from the audience. When they knelt to pray, the prisoners took the Ayatollah's portrait from around their necks, lay it on the ground and placed their foreheads upon it.

In their prison barracks, these men, including the Iraqi paratroopers who arrived from the war front still wearing their blue berets, are to be given weekly lessons by mullahs on the meaning of Islam. They already receive the daily Tehran newspaper *Kayhan*, specially printed in Arabic. When these prisoners return to Baghdad, some of them—

perhaps a goodly proportion—will carry these lessons with them, an incubus for the overthrow of Saddam Hussein.

The Iraqis would not permit the Iraqis to speak to journalists, although they produced "news" from foreign captives "taken" from Jordan, Lebanon, Tunisia, Nigeria and Somalia, who had been taken among the Iraqi prisoners.

A bearded librarian from the Lebanese town of Zahle claimed he had been forced to enlist while working in Baghdad. A Somali, Fauzi Hijazi, frightened but smiling, pleaded with me to tell his embassy of his presence. He had been a scholarship student at Baghdad University, he said, when he had been press-ganged into the Iraqi army. He had not been visited by the Red Cross, but he got no further, for an Iranian soldier ordered him to stop speaking.

Many of the 14,000 prisoners were driven from the POW camp to other barracks through the town of Shahrazur, a chilling journey through small, windswept villages where peasants and veiled women gazed at their hostility towards Iraq and its president. It is a memory that President Hassan, Saddam's soldiers are unlikely to forget.

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When no news is electrifying

Have you ever wished you were better informed? When Nigel Lawson sacked Glyn England as chairman of the Central Electricity Generating Board earlier this month one of the reasons given was that the CEBG had not given enough information to officials at the Department of Energy. England dismissed the charge as "nonsense", and used the occasion to reveal that he was a founder member of the SDP and to launch a bitter attack on the Government's dealings with his industry.

Today the Electricity Consumers' Council publishes its response to the consultative document *Consumers' Interests and the Nationalized Industries*. The memorandum has an appendix about the council's difficulties in obtaining information, particularly from the CEBG.

"Information has often not been forthcoming," it says, "on important matters such as the Bulk Supply Tariff, the Monopolies and Mergers Commission investigation into the CEBG, ECC research projects on the Planning Margin and power station construction delays."

It is not the first time the CEBG's close attitude to information has been remarked. The Monopolies and Mergers Commission's report in May 1981 noted that the CEBG's 1980-81 development review, "hitherto regarded as an internal document", had been made available too late to be taken into account.

The Commons Select Committee reporting on the nuclear power programme in February 1981 said it would have been "less misleading and much more helpful" if the CEBG had made it clear when first giving evidence that the figures it had supplied were out of date.

England may, of course, have an explanation. It could be that at the CEBG, where information is so jealously guarded, no one told him what was going on.

Pirate publishers

Macmillan has started another Korean war. If this seems a little anachronistic, let PHS explain. Macmillan, the publishing house, has mounted a blockade against any further purchases of paper and print from Korea until that country's government takes action to stop Korean publishers pirating *The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*.

Nicholas Byam Shaw, the Macmillan managing director, first complained that Lee Jun, of the Nkije Publishing Company in Korea, was pirating *The New Grove* a year ago. Lee's plates and stocks were frozen but, says Byam Shaw, "when the hue and cry died down they were released". Over 500 copies of the pirated edition have been sold, with the result that Macmillan has made no money from *The New Grove* in Korea.

There is no legislation in Korea against such infringement of copyright. The Book Development Council, which estimates that last year British publishers bought more than £500,000 in print and paper from Korea and that sales of British books there were worth about the same, says

THE TIMES DIARY



John Lill, who is to play all 32 Beethoven piano sonatas in a series of eight concerts at the Queen Elizabeth Hall starting on Thursday, that planning the programmes has been rather like arranging a menu.

"To play them in straight chronological order is syntactically too cramped. Each recital must give a fair representation of earlier, middle and late works, played in order of composition. I would never play an earlier work after a later, and no programme

must last much more than 2½ hours for fear of overtaxing the audience."

Lill has also managed to arrange that there will be at least one named sonata in each recital. "Some people are attracted to such things," he says, "though some of the greatest do not have names, including the last. That is the greatest of all, and must, of course, be played last."

Next year Lill, who had memorized all Beethoven's piano music by the age of 14, will be adding the five piano concertos too, for performances in San

there is increasing evidence that United Kingdom publishers generally will divert their business elsewhere unless there is an end to pirating in Korea. Macmillan's opening shot is to cancel two orders worth \$75,000.

Jam tomorrow

The Studio Club, founded by Augustus John, Jacob Epstein and others in 1917 and a famous venue for jam sessions of jazz music in the 1950s and '60s, is to reopen after a 15-year closure.

Alan Clare, who will be returning as resident pianist, tells me the artists' club had become pretty decrepit when he first went to play there. "There were notices up saying members must pay their subscriptions if the club was to continue, the floorboards were unsafe and the piano was crumbling."

None the less he attracted first Stéphane Grappelli, then Kenny Baker, and then Americans such as Billie Holiday, Billy Eckstine, Sarah Vaughan and the Count Basie band to play and sing there "for love". Len Deighton, the novelist now living in tax exile in Ireland, was a waiter.

This time the club's site, a basement below Bentley's restaurant in Swallow Street, off Piccadilly, will be completely refurbished before the opening in May.

Erudite protest from Dorset: the neat counter at the Sherborne Liptons over Easter bore a sign saying "You can stick your corned beef where Don Juan stuck his paella". What juicy bit of Tasso de Molino, Moliere or Byron do the locals know that I have missed?

Shabby treatment

A billboard in English stuck across Pablo Picasso's birthplace in Malaga announced: "The wax museum at Torremolinos—third dimension in wax." After last year's brouhaha in Spain celebrating the centenary of the painter's birth, it is sad no one has thought of putting a plaque on the site of the 19th century square just behind Malaga's cathedral.

The house, where Picasso lived the first nine years of his life, is tumbledown. Plaster is falling, the windows gape open with shutters gone. The last occupants left their junk behind.

By contrast two streets away a plaque commemorates the birth of a totally forgotten poet, "an illustrious unknown", as the Spanish would call him. It makes Picasso's treatment look shabbier.

Not such a snip

There is something funny about typewriters, and this is not a case of a bad workman blaming his tools. It is their prices, which seem to be perpetually almost halved.

In several areas of trade, such as bedding, furniture, carpets and domestic appliances, it is forbidden to make comparisons with manufacturers' recommended prices, because they had become notoriously meaningless. Yet it is still permitted with typewriters, where such comparisons are just as misleading.

An instance from the latest report of the Advertising Standards Authority: people objected

to an advertisement offering a typewriter at £199.95. It stated "recommended retail price £393—save £193.50." They said the manufacturers themselves advertised the typewriter as being sold at "around £200," reducing the "saving" to about 5p.

The complaint was not upheld. Indeed the manufacturers' recommended retail price, already so widely disconnected from the selling price, has since been increased again, and now stands at £394.44. "It is outside our remit," says the ASA pathetically.

Own goal

The handbook prepared by the organizing committee of the Royal Spanish Football Federation to tell who can go where, when, and with which team during the World Cup, says: "The tasks and interrelations inside the organization... that may be abused by a means and with the aim of access and identification... becomes an... operative subject for the... and official parties involved." The French and German "actions are even worse."

Sans Gill

The West End gallery, Mond Fine Art, does less than justice to the late Eric Gill, typographer, artist and eccentric, with the catalogue to its exhibition this month of his prints and drawings. The best reminder for his clean-cut typeface Gill sans, the catalogue is unimaginatively set in Helvetica.

and that without any regard for Gill's preferences for unjustified lines and short measures. The gallery is, unsurprisingly, saying: "A catalogue is a work of art." A design concerning Gill's firm was considered, but rejected because the gallery's printer "could not cope."

A note of trust

The British composer Alan Hazeldine, based in Sofia, on Thursday is to conduct, in Varna, Williams' Bulgarian premiere. The chosen work is the composer's sixth symphony which, according to Gennadi Rozhdenskiy, has not been country before.

Hazeldine, who studied in Bulgaria and speaks the language well enough to convey the flavour of English patriotism to the Sofia strings, says: "The Bulgarians are keen to identify their music, but cannot afford to buy orchestral parts in the West." In this instance the Vaughan Williams Trust has donated the copies of the score which Hazeldine takes with him.

After my comments yesterday about Easter's new role as the second coming of Christmas, it is with little surprise that I learn that an eight-foot Christmas tree with fairy lights was erected outside the John Peel Inn at Calstock over Easter. The inn-keeper explained there had been too much snow at Christmas, so he put the tree up at Easter instead.

PHS

Politics a

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A longer view on Middle East oil

President Assad of Syria is hoping that, too. He has felt the blade very near his neck in the last three years, and although on the face of it his domestic enemies — the Muslim Brotherhood — have more in common ideologically with Iran, he knows that it is from his fellow-Baathists in Baghdad that they get moral and material support. The enmity between rival factions of the Baath party surpasses that between Arab and Persian, or even between secularism and militant Islam. Thus Mr Assad and the

Where can they look for help, if not to the largest Arab state, which already provides them with so much of their brain power, and which is still the leading military power in the Arab

As for Iran, we should all devoutly wish its deliverance from its present barbaric regime. But it is far from certain that that will be achieved quickest by helping Iraq to carry on fighting. At present, Iran's potential Bonapartes are presumably busy at the front. It is when they return in triumph that the mullahs should watch out.

From Professor H. W. Singer
Sir, Some of us have been advocating in *The Times* and elsewhere a "global bargain" with Opec. Two key elements of this bargain would be an offer to Opec of inflation-proof investments for their surpluses in exchange for a reduction in oil

and, it is believed, one injured.
Mr. Hunt has greatly exaggerated the number of casualties inflicted. The Argentines have thus been able to claim a military victory which would otherwise have been denied them.

No preparations have been made to mine the three approach roads or to enable the local

There is immense food with in the country.
I trust we will not throw it all away.

Yours faithfully,
E. P. CARLISLE,
Penrynwlodd,
Llanigon.
Hay-on-Wye, via Hereford.
April 12.

Yours faithfully,
F. J. G. FRANCIS,
Head of Geophysics,
Institute of Oceanographic
Sciences,
Brook Road, Wormley,
Goldamington, Surrey.

The inspectors, at whose approach headmasters tremble like fourth-formers, have a reputation for a sober and merciless integrity. Their reports on the state of our schools, steadfastly avoid anything resembling the sensational or the politically opportunistic. A report affirming, as last week's did, that "the majority of schools are still well found and the majority of pupils still

Naturally the inspectors leave it to others to express concern about social problems being laid up for the future, about the unemployed unskilled, and about justice. But in the definition they supply for their term "satisfactory" (a standard which few LEAs succeed in attaining in all respects, and some fail to attain at any point) they clearly make allusion to the statutory duties of LEAs under the 1944 Education Act, and that of the Secretary of State, to ensure

take care that this discretion is not being irresponsibly employed. As for the teachers, who for the most part have been protected successfully from redundancies, they should bear in mind that money spent on salaries cannot be spent on other aspects of educational provision. These are matters which deserve close investigation when the Commons Select committee on education starts its hearings next week.

It may be thought that at this very moment, when oil prices are on the slide and Opec is in some disarray, the need for a global bargain has disappeared. I believe, however, that this would be a very shortsighted view.

only be subserved by immersing that name in a wider whole).
The same stable and attitudinal should be possible (if not in circumstances so permutative for inhabitants of other islands such as Ascension, St Helena, Tristan da Cunha and Pitcairn — I presume) omit other potential candidates.

Yours sincerely,
KEITH HAMILTON JONES,
Morval House, Morval,
near East Loos, Cornwall.

consent to treatment as a crucial issue in the Mental Health (Amendment) Bill. Although many aspects of the Bill have found favour with The Royal College of Psychiatrists, members are seriously worried by the inclusion of medication in Clause

When my party held control from 1977 until 1981, we adopted the practice of the 20 political seats being apportioned between the three political parties in accordance with their numbers

am, Sir, yours faithfully,
NEVILLE GOLDREIN,
Leader of the Conservative
Group,
Merseyside County Council,
PO Box 95,
Metropolitan House,
Old Hall Street,
Liverpool.
April 1.

Perhaps the big cover houses
who have to lay off pluvial
insurance in this unpredictable
island would do well to revive the
leech bottle, as should also
Citizen Ladbroke?

Yours faithfully,
L. J. LATHAM,
49 Scarsdale Villas,
Kensington, W8.

Gas supply

The Falkland Islands and their Dependencies are, and should be regarded as, an asset to the United Kingdom not merely as

right and — I would submit — the duty to restore our sovereignty by force if need be.

Yours faithfully,
KERN BAUNCEY, President

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One device for overcoming this problem would be for the Department of Energy to purchase these contracts at a price related to the price paid by British Gas, then to auction the

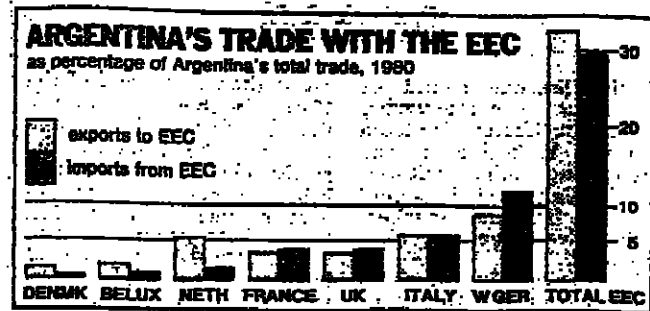
**S. C. M. F. A. BIRMINGHAM,
Faculty of Commerce and Social
Science,
The University of Birmingham,
North Ring Road,
Birmingham.
March 30.**

Yours sincerely,
DE L'ISLE,
House of Lords.
April 8.

numerals in order to make it more difficult to spot the repeats.
Yours etc,
A. K. GALLOWAY,
101 Ardgowan Road, SE6.
April 6.

BUSINESS NEWS

Sanctions will bite



The EEC's trade sanctions could affect Argentina significantly because it accounts for roughly a third of Argentina's total trade. Half of the country's \$2,550m (£1,440m) exports to the EEC during 1980 consisted of foodstuffs such as beef and a quarter of raw materials such as leather. Imports mostly machinery and manufactured goods, totalling \$3,080m. West Germany took 9 per cent of Argentina's exports and accounted for 12 per cent of her imports. The comparable figures for Britain were 3½ per cent and 4 per cent.

Opec meeting postponed

A follow-up committee of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries has put off a meeting scheduled for next week in Vienna because the large oil companies have stopped putting pressure on Nigeria, the Saudi Press Agency said yesterday.

Pressure off the pound

Hopes that Mr Haig's shuttle diplomacy will bear fruit took some of the pressure off sterling in overseas foreign exchange markets yesterday. The pound, which had closed at \$1.7580 in London and \$1.7550 in New York before the weekend, traded slightly higher in the Far East yesterday and reached \$1.7655 in early New York dealing.

BL sales double in five countries

BL's sales have doubled in the five main continental markets (Italy, France, Germany, Belgium and Holland) led by the Austin Metro and the launch of the Triumph Acclaim. Total BL car sales in these countries last month were \$395, compared with 4,460 in March 1981. Italian customers bought 2,629 Metros, the best ever month in a continental market.

\$10m steel deal

Improved cost-competitiveness at British Steel's Port Talbot plant has helped to win a £10m contract to supply 75,000 tonnes of slabs to the Kaiser Steel Corporation, in the United States, with the prospect of more substantial business from the same customer for BSC Strip Mill Products.

Factory to close

The SCM Corporation is closing its golfball typewriter factory in Glasgow on June 30, with the loss of 190 jobs. The company's announcement follows last week's announcement of the impending closure of SCM's typewriter plant in Toronto.

THE WEEK AHEAD

RTZ faces big setback

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 580.3 down 1.0
FT 100 66.76 down 0.35
FT All Share not available
Bargains 16,052

Thursday's close
Both Bank of Scotland and Taylor Woodrow should show a comfortable advance in taxable profits with final dividends due this week, but there is a risk of a big profit setback for mining giant Rio Tinto Zinc.

At the half-way stage, Rio-Tinto profits fell 41 per cent to £173m, although the dividend was held, and that results are expected to show a fall from £507m to around £370m pre-tax.

The second half should see some improvement from the metals mining business, with CRA, the group's 55 per cent owned Australian subsidiary, likely to benefit from firmer metal prices.

RTZ shares have slipped back from a 1981 peak of 633p to 412p despite the prospects of above average growth in the eighties as a result of higher commodity prices and volume gains from the use of spare capacity, this level is well below the level of the shares at the half-way stage, when most analysts

OTHER EXCHANGES

Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones Index 7,234 down 25.88
Hongkong Hang Seng Index 1,206.86 up 19.00
New York Dow Jones Industrial average 842 up 6.0
Thursday's close

ECONOMIC VIEW

The key factor for the economy this week will be developments over the Falklands. Provided negotiations seem a more likely path than warfare, the authorities will have a much better chance of stabilizing sterling without a rise in interest rates.

Job fears as oil rig orders decline

By Jonathan Davis, Energy Correspondent

The value of orders from new North Sea oil developments fell by more than 15 per cent last year, from £2,380m to less than £2,000m, figures to be published shortly by the Government are expected to show. Another decline is likely this year amid growing fears that hundreds of jobs in the offshore construction industry will be lost unless there is an unexpected rise in demand.

The fall in the value of offshore orders reflects the drying up of new North Sea field developments in the present harsher climate of falling oil prices and what the oil companies claim is excessive North Sea taxation. Twenty fields are in production, and another five are due on stream by 1984. But no new developments have been started in the last two years, and many companies are re-evaluating their potentially economic oil finds.

Leading figures in the platform and module construction industries left Mr Hamish Gray, the Minister in charge of North Sea oil at the Department of Energy in no doubt at an industry dinner last week of their gloomy outlook. One employer, Lewis Offshore, issued 90-day statutory redundancy notices to its 400 workers at Stornoway in Shetland.

The outlook is bleak, according to Mr George Maine, business development manager at William Press, and outgoing chairman of the Mobile Constructors Association. "There will be plenty of redundancies in the next few months, there seems little doubt about that."

The fall in the value of orders to less than £2,000m compares with the peak year of 1979 when the orders

totalled £2,679m, 79 per cent of which went to United Kingdom suppliers. In 1980 the percentage of domestically won orders dropped to 71 per cent, and last year is believed to have fallen a little further to between 65 and 70 per cent.

The new figures are likely to be used as ammunition by the oil companies in their continuing campaign against the North Sea tax regime, which they say is discouraging new developments.

Of the main yards producing offshore production platforms, two - Highland Fabricators at Nigg, and McDermott's yard at Ardersier - are working on a tension leg platform for Conoco's Hutton field, which will last into next year. But the yards at Methil, Hunterston and Loch Kishorn, all in areas of high unemployment, face an uncertain future when work runs out in the next few months.

Industry sources say that the crunch will probably come in the late summer. The Government's "big" spot area platform orders for British Gas, Morrocan Bay and Rough field developments, which are expected to be placed soon. The Morrocan development overall could be worth £100m.

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Hopes rise for overseas expansion in Britain

US companies ready to invest

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

Several big United States companies are considering further investment in Britain. Encouraged by the progress on the industrial front over the past two years, a number of companies are considering expansion while others may make their initial investment.

Britain remains the second choice for foreign investment by United States companies after Canada. The book value of the investment is estimated at £28,000m.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Industry Secretary, who has recently returned from a visit to the United States promoting the United Kingdom as a location for manufacturing investment, especially in the high technology sector, is optimistic.

Companies said to be considering new investment include American Can, Alcoa, Raytheon and Paine-Bowes all of which have existing United Kingdom facilities. Tandem Computers is a company which may establish itself in Britain.

The Industry Department is keen to build on the already significant base of United States investment - there are 1,000 United States companies with plants in Britain - and although hopes of securing additional spending was recently given a setback to its hopes.

Mr Jenkin's confidence is based on talks he had with Bristol-Myers, a New York-based company producing pharmaceutical and toiletry goods, had been negotiating with officials from the Invest in Britain Bureau and with local development agencies in Chwyd, north Wales. The company had short-listed sites at Wrexham and another in the Netherlands for a plant producing a powdered milk substitute.

The company which already facilities in the United Kingdom and planning another development in the north east is to build the 67m plant in Holland.

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Sales fall but profits rise at Pergamon

By Drew Johnston

Pergamon Press, the printing and publishing group privately owned by Mr Robert Maxwell's family trusts, has announced an increase in pretax profits from £4.5m to £5.7m for the year to December 1981.

The results, which do not include Pergamon's share of the losses at British Printing and Communications Corporation, show that profitability almost doubled - from £3.7m to £6.9m in the group's publishing business. But losses in the other two main activities, printing and dealing in securities, increased, printing from a loss of £262,000 to £321,000, and dealing to a loss of £661,000 from a profit of more than £1m last time. Sales were down to £71m from £110m.

BPPC, in which Pergamon has a 77 per cent stake, announced last week that it had slashed last year's £11.2m loss to a loss of only £1.2m for the year to January 2, 1982. In the second half, BPPC recorded a £6.9m profit, though it also received £3.25m from Pergamon in return for using its tax losses to offset against Pergamon's profits. Pergamon said further substantial profits will be made to BPPC in respect of its 1982 profits.

Pergamon's results include a 40 per cent share of closure costs amounting to £1.2m from two subsidiaries of its associate company Thomson Printers.

It said measures have been taken to eliminate losses from its printing division companies.

Mr Robert Maxwell, chairman, said a dramatic improvement in publishing profits had been achieved in spite of the continued world recession, and after charges of approximately £600,000 on the group's expenses in the fields of electronic publishing, computerized information storage and retrieval and related activities.

He said that during 1981 his group spent £10m on buying the majority in BPPC, £16m on trade investments and £2m on capital equipment.

Since the introduction of the new Department of Industry has commissioned consultants to make detailed studies of the companies involved in production of cold-rolled strip and bright bars.

The Government's recommendations are likely to swallow up a considerable part of the £22m allocation but it is thought unlikely that the Department of Industry will be able to persuade the Treasury to make additional funds available.

However, ministers have not ruled out the possibility of promoting further restructuring.

The British textile and clothing industry is a long way from recovery, according to the latest, and more than usually gloomy, quarterly review from the Textile Statistics Bureau.

Even improved domestic demand has only increased the volume of imports, the review says.

The seasonally adjusted index of textile production is estimated to have fallen marginally in the last quarter of 1981, finishing 2 per cent

Trucks market may be set for recovery

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Britain's badly depressed market for new trucks is showing strong indications of an upturn, with the leading manufacturers predicting a rise in sales of between 20 and 30 per cent compared with 1981.

The increasing business may not be sufficient, however, to restore profitability to a sector which has experienced one of its worst periods of declining demand. Sales of heavy lorries in the United Kingdom plummeted last year to their lowest level for 40 years.

Latest figures from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders show that a steady but gradual recovery is now under way with sales in the first quarter of all commercial vehicles totalling 58,819, a 7.6 per cent rise on a year earlier.

Confirmation of a market revival has come from ERF, the country's last remaining independent heavy truck maker, which is confident of a slow build up in output as demand increases.

Mr John Bailey, sales and marketing director for ERF, said that 50 per cent of the company's output up to August had been sold to United Kingdom customers. The company is hoping to return to profitability by the end of the year following its

decline to a pre-tax loss of £4.26m in the year to April, 1981.

Mr Bailey is now directing a new ERF export drive to reduce the company's dependence on the United Kingdom market and by concentrating on African and Middle East markets there are now hopes of boosting this to 30-35 per cent within the next three years.

On the home front, ERF is battling not only with the big manufacturers like BL and Ford, but also with a growing tide of imports.

The March success story was claimed by Ford which took more than a third of sales in each of the commercial vehicle sectors.

Buying confidence lifts demand for new homes

By Rupert Morris

A significant increase in confidence among house buyers, and a consequent rise in demand for private new housing is revealed by the House Builders' Federation's latest quarterly State of Trade Enquiry, today.

More than half the house builders surveyed reported an increase in interest among first-time buyers, and among owner-occupiers. This represents a substantial improvement over the final quarter of 1981 when only 10 per cent of reported interest.

About 57 per cent of housebuilders plan to increase starts this year, while only 9 per cent expect fewer starts. The previous quarter showed 31 per cent of companies planning to increase starts, while 29 per cent expected a fall.

There will be more jobs in housebuilding this year, according to the survey, in which 51 per cent of companies expect to increase on-site employment, with 21 per cent expecting an increase of 10 per cent or more.

Most companies expect margins to be maintained or improved, indicating that house prices have stabilized, according to the Federation.

The trading deficit in textiles and clothing widened sharply from £110m in the fourth quarter of 1980 to £264m in the same period of 1981.

The number employed in cotton and allied textiles in December 1981 was 4,400 fewer than in September, and 23,000 fewer than in December 1980 - equivalent to a 6.5 per cent decline over the year.

The trading deficit in textiles and clothing widened sharply from £110m in the fourth quarter of 1980 to £264m in the same period of 1981.

Cable TV survey ordered

By Bill Johnston

Electronics Correspondent

The Cabinet Office is to contribute financially to another report on cable television.

The BBC, BICC, and European telecommunications authorities through the Eurodata Foundation are among the other organizations which contributed to the study entitled "Cable Television in Western Europe."

This latest study is being prepared by CIT Research and Communications Studies and Planning of London and its findings are to be published in October at the same time as the Government is expected to respond to the report on cable systems published on March 22 prepared for the Cabinet Office by the Information Technology Advisory Panel report which was funded by 21 different organizations interested in a range of opportunities offered by cable television.

The Government's study will be carried out in Britain, the Netherlands and Belgium, will devote 30 per cent of its £500,000 budget to consumer research.

New plans for private steel units

By Our Industrial Editor

New proposals for rationalization of the private sector of the United Kingdom steel industry will be submitted to ministers within the next few months and they seem likely to take up most of the £22m being provided by the Government to promote restructuring.

The £22m allocation was announced last December and money will be made available in the form of grants which will be paid out on the basis of schemes produced by the industry in line with EEC Commission rules.

Eight companies have so far applied for assistance under the scheme covering a total of 14 separate projects.

Applications under the scheme have to be made by the end of September.

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back to barely half the market by volume. But technological advances now mean a company like Robinson's can produce dry formulations which produce baby foods close to the wet products in texture and taste, claims Mr Roger Munby, marketing director of Robinson's food and wine division.

From 52 per cent in 1979, the dry sector has now gone to 60 per cent of the baby food market by volume. That is a 14 per cent market share by value, reflecting the traditionally higher prices of the fully prepared products.

But Robinson's has also been at bay in the dry sector. West Germany's Milupa has seized 40 per cent of the market in a decade.

Robinson's plans £1.5m baby food drive

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

A new battle in the £100m baby food market is about to break out. Robinson's, part of Reckitt & Coleman, is preparing to re-launch a reformulated and extended dry baby food range in the summer. Promotional spending will jump from £250,000 last year to £1.5m this and production capacity at Robinson's Norwich factory is being increased by 30 per cent.

Robinson's invented baby food with dry ingredients in the last century. Queen Victoria used the company's groats and barley but has faced a rearguard action ever since.

In the £11m meal and dessert sector - the rest of baby foods are accounted for by milk-based products - Heinz is no clear market leader with 40 per cent market share by value, with Robinson's at just under 20 per cent.

The Heinz formula to attract mothers was fully prepared baby foods, known as the wet sector with the foods packaged in cans and jars. Gerber added to the competitive drive of the wet products, but pulled out of the British market in 1979, mainly to Heinz's advantage. The dry sector was driven

back to barely half the market by volume. But technological advances now mean a company like Robinson's can produce dry formulations which produce baby foods close to the wet products in texture and taste, claims Mr Roger Munby, marketing director of Robinson's food and wine division.

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TV group may have to pay rent refunds

By Our Commercial Editor

A leading television rental company could soon be faced with refunding considerable sums to customers whose rentals have been increased. The Office of Fair Trading is investigating 17 rental companies which it believes have increased rentals without authority.

Two years ago, after Mr Gordon Borrie, Director General of the OFT, first started investigating complaints about television rental increases, the focus was on two other large rental companies and refunds of more than £500,000 were made. If the refunds had not been made the companies stood to lose their licences as credit traders since Mr Borrie can revoke such licences.

The problem arises where rental agreements do not stipulate that the rental company may increase the rental during the life of the contract, usually three years. Complaints are that companies have written to customers giving notice of increases, usually in line with inflation, without offering any other option.

The OFT believes that if a rental company wants to change the terms of the rental contract, a customer should be allowed the option of terminating the contract in the early investigations by the OFT, which involved seven companies, some clarified their contracts.

One problem is that some customers do not study contracts carefully. Even when customers have challenged proposed increases, some companies have still misled them by saying the company was empowered to act under the Control of Hiring Order. An authority under the order has to be secured when rental increases are sought but that does not affect customers' rights under their individual rental agreements.

Mr Borrie's investigations of the television rental industry when customers have challenged unfair practices by some small rental companies on which the OFT has taken action.

For the purpose of this exchange holders of shares and 1976 convertible bonds of COMPAGNIE FINANCIERE DE PARIS ET DES PAYS-BAS should apply to the bank or financial institution which usually deals with their securities.

A separate notice will be published concerning the procedure for the Bearer Depository Receipts of FF.5.00 nominal, issued by S. G. Warburg & Co. Ltd.

United Kingdom shareholders may apply to S. G. Warburg & Co. Ltd., 30, Gresham Street, London, EC2P 2EB (Tel: 01-600-4555 Ext: 6118) for information.

Compagnie Financiere de Paris et des Pays-Bas

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS AND TO HOLDERS OF THE CONVERTIBLE BONDS ISSUED IN 1976 WITH A RISING INTEREST RATE

Under the provisions of the Law of February 11th 1982 COMPAGNIE FINANCIERE DE PARIS ET DES PAYS-BAS will be nationalised through the transfer of the ownership of its shares to the French State.

In exchange for the shares that you are holding you will receive floating rate bonds guaranteed by the French State and issued by Caisse Nationale des Banques (CNB) a publicly owned institution managed by Caisse des Depots et Consignations. These floating rate bonds will be quoted on the Paris Stock Exchange from the commencement of business on April 13th 1982. The shares are valued at FF 303.35 for the purpose of this exchange.

Until April 8th the existing shares will be quoted on the Paris Stock Exchange under the heading "D.T.I." (representing the French abbreviation for "Droits a Titres Indemnitaires" - "Rights to nationalisation bonds").

Caisse Nationale des Banques will in due course publish a communiqué on the exchange procedures.

In addition the 1976 convertible bonds issued by COMPAGNIE FINANCIERE DE PARIS ET DES PAYS-BAS are no longer convertible into shares. They can either be retained by their holders under the original terms (as to maturity and interest rate) or they may be tendered in exchange for the Caisse Nationale des Banques floating rate bonds provided that the exchange request reaches a French bank or stockbroker at the latest by May 20th 1982. The bonds are valued at FF 374.82 for the purpose of this exchange.

The 1976 convertible bonds will still be quoted on the Paris Stock Exchange until May 19th 1982 under the heading "O.E.T." (representing the French abbreviation for "Obligations Echangeables contre des Titres Indemnitaires" - "Bonds exchangeable for nationalisation bonds").

For the purpose of this exchange holders of shares and 1976 convertible bonds of COMPAGNIE FINANCIERE DE PARIS ET DES PAYS-BAS should apply to the bank or financial institution which usually deals with their securities.

BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT



INTERNATIONAL

UNITED STATES

The biggest sale of Federal oil and gas drilling rights in the United States history will take place in Alaska in Fairbanks on May 26 when bidders will be offered 10-year leases on 212 tracts totalling 3.5 million acres. The first sale last January involved 59 tracts covering 1.5 million acres.

General Motors workers' narrow acceptance of a 2 1/2-year concessions package may not be able to save the top American car maker from further labour trouble because it is obtaining fresh efforts to obtain further concessions at many of its plants.

JAPAN

Japanese private sector machinery orders, excluding ships, rose 30.6 per cent in February to a seasonally-adjusted 747,000 yen (£1,674.15m) from 572,000 yen in January, when they fell 6.2 per cent from December.

Japanese corporate bankruptcies in fiscal 1981, which ended last month, fell 4.5 per cent to 17,397 from a record 18,212 in fiscal 1980, but this was the third highest annual total.

Mitsubishi Motors announced it would provide information on controlling parts inventories and production, to Chrysler Corporation of the United States.

Nissan Diesel Motor Co. has concluded a long-term contract to supply American Motors Corporation with diesel engines from mid-1982.

SAUDI ARABIA

Saudi Arabia could announce a cut in oil production ceiling of 500,000 barrels a day this week to help Nigeria hold the Opec pricing line, according to the Middle East Economic Survey.

ITALY

Italy had a trade deficit of 2,931,000 lire (£1,260.6m) in February, compared with deficits of 1,510,000 lire in January and 1,530,000 lire a year earlier.

Target for Sunday: that elusive reader in the middle

MARKETING AND ADVERTISING

By Tom Douglas

The advertising business would like to see the success recreated on a Sunday, not least because for many years there has been a monopoly in the middle of that market. Only one paper has been available to advertisers between the Sunday Express and the "naughties" as the Mail on Sunday's advertising agency, Satchi and Satchi Garland Compton, has dubbed them in its trade advertising. That is the Sunday Express, which though highly successful over many years is now felt by many advertisers to be unfashionable, with an ageing readership.

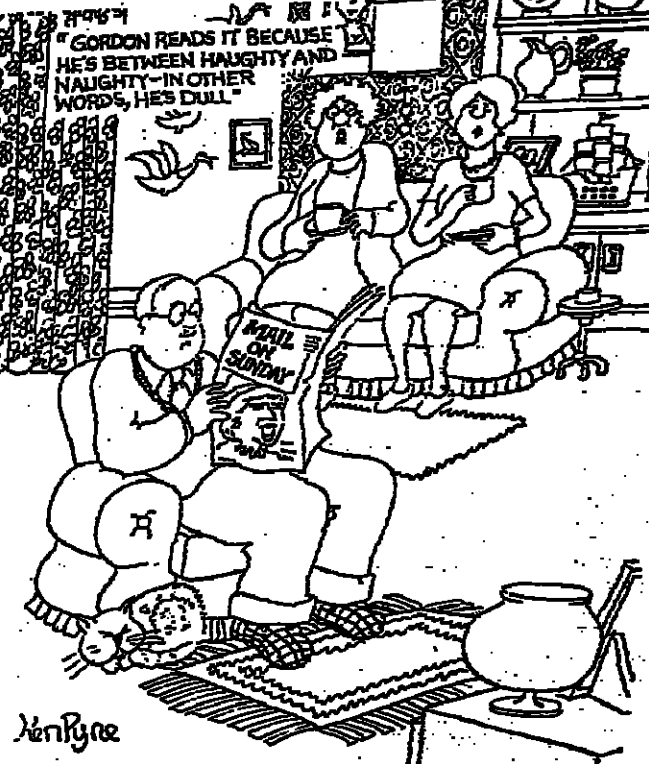
Already advertisers have booked more than £2.25m of display advertising with the paper, and that is without even having seen a dummy issue.

Within the first two weeks of the offer, over 150,000 Mail readers had put in their orders and John Winnington-Ingram, managing director, is confident that by the day of the launch the newspaper will have more than 300,000 Mail readers safely under its belt.

The rest of the £3m advertising campaign is just beginning. Television commercials and posters are telling people that The Mail on Sunday is on its way, and over the next three weeks there will be any number of television programmes and radio interviews featuring Winnington-Ingram and Bernard Shrimley, editor, as Associated Newspapers brings to a head its campaign to ensure that everyone in the target market is aware that a new Sunday paper is to be born.

For the advertising industry, the launch of any major new publication is an event, but this particular paper has greater goodwill going for it than most. Advertisers love a winner and the Daily Mail has been a success in anybody's terms since its relaunch as a tabloid in 1971.

While the Mail on Sunday has said little about its editorial plans, the Express is quite open about its editorial strategy, which centres on its colour magazine, since this is



Lenkyne

keeping his editorial product firmly under wraps.

Since the paper's display revenue target is just £5m with a further £2m budgeted for classified revenue, the Mail on Sunday is already well on its way to profitability. However, there is a world difference in the world between winning advertising on trust for the early issues of a newspaper — all new publications can sell out their first issues, on curiosity value alone — and sustaining a regular income once that initial interest has died down.

The Mail on Sunday is aiming for an initial circulation of 1.25 million, of which it would like 60 per cent to be in the ABC1 socio-economic groups. It has based its advertising rates on this supposition and advertising agencies reckon that on these costings it offers a very attractive buy.

Everything depends, however, on whether it can achieve this circulation and this is by no means certain. In favour is the fact that 9% million people never read a Sunday paper, and many of these read the Daily Mail during the week. The supposition is that if there were a paper they felt at home with on Sunday, ie, a Sunday version of the Mail — they would buy it.

On the other hand, rival newspaper publishers are by no means convinced that there really is room for an extra paper, either in a reader's mind or in advertising terms. One problem in going for the middle ground, is the fact that the competition comes from all the other papers in the market, and not just one sector.

For months, the other Sundays have been gearing themselves up for the launch of the new paper with, inevitably, the Sunday Express, as the paper which has most to lose, in the forefront.

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Business Editor

Uncertainties ahead

If the present round of diplomatic manoeuvring leaves the United Kingdom and the Argentine to the negotiating table without blood being shed it should provide financial markets with at least some comfort this week.

But the opening of negotiations over the future of the Falklands would not, of course, do more than lighten the clouds at present overhanging markets. For a start there would be no automatic guarantee that the talks would run smoothly. And then, even if a deal were concluded, it is still far from clear that the eventual terms would be adequate to secure the Prime Minister's future.

In short, markets face some awkward weeks ahead. But provided we can expect talking rather than fighting, the authorities will presumably be all out to resist a rise in interest rates — unless, perhaps, it becomes clear that United States rates have nowhere to go but upwards.

Auction houses Hard lessons

The two quoted fine art auction houses finally came down to earth with a bump last week. Christie's International announced a sharp fall in profits, and Sotheby Parke Bernet confirmed that it is, having major structural problems which will lead to a trading loss in the current year ending in August.

For most of its five year life as a publicly quoted company, Sotheby's standing has gone from strength to strength with all the attendant publicity surrounding the mega-sales — Memminger von Hirsch, the Henry Ford II Impressionist collection, the Leonardo da Vinci Codex and so on.

The investment case, which pushed Sotheby's share price up from its 150p public launch to well over 500p before troubles set in, was based on London's dominance in the international market and the commanding position the two British names occupied in a period of rising inflation, the auction houses appeared to have a built-in cushion with their homes rising in line with the steady increase in art prices.

At the same time the two houses seemed to be heading for a big jump in profits as the fruits of an aggressive overseas expansion started to ripen. And they were free from the sort of management problems which have bedeviled the UK labour dispute and working capital requirements which had to be met.

So what has gone wrong? For both the houses, one of their major headaches has been if not the collapse of the international art market at least a much quieter

phase than at the end of the 1970s. By their very nature the big sales are lumpy and there have been none of the really big auctions which have helped profits in earlier years. That has forced both groups back to their bread and butter business at the medium and small end of the market at a time when increasing competition in the whole market has also led them into a commission war.

The difficulties have been most acute across the Atlantic where both Christies and Sotheby's have spent heavily to cash in on what they rightly identified at the time as a boom in the North American market. But for the past year high United States interest rates have pulled the rug from under this market.

What has become apparent in the world's salerooms has been the marked emphasis of buyers on quality while there has still been a tendency for vendors to gum up the works by setting unrealistically high reserve prices.

On top of the problems in the whole market, Sotheby's has been afflicted by character defects of its own. Last week's management changes underlined what has been apparent both inside and outside the company, namely that the commercial voice has been in constant battle with the wilderness. That was fine while the chairman was a business-getter like Mr Peter Wilson, but with his retirement the group could no longer rely on getting an increasing market share.

Mr Gordon Bruntion who becomes non-executive chairman of Sotheby's.

In the middle of a big expansion programme — new salerooms in New York, growth in warehouse capacity and increasing staff numbers cost £13m in two years — Sotheby's suddenly found its costs and revenues lines running in opposite directions.

The question now is whether effective action has been taken in time, or whether the long rumoured bid, perhaps from the United States, will prevent the new management having the freedom to put new ideas into action. But the real lesson for the two houses over the past year, which has also seen how far they have allowed themselves to become separated from the market with all the bickering over the buyers' premium, is that there is at the end of the day no difference between the international art market and any other market. The sooner the two houses recognize this, the better they will be able to adapt to new circumstances.

MARKETS ROUND-UP

Tax cut hopes and optimism for economy boost prices

WALL STREET: The Stock Market continued to move upward last week closing at 842.94, a rise of 4.37 points for the week. The Dow Jones industrial average has been climbing steadily in recent weeks, advancing 36 points since March 22 in spite of the weak United States economy, high interest rates and poor prospects for first quarter corporate earnings.

Analysts attribute the rise to a more positive attitude by investors to the economic situation and are acting on the belief that President Reagan's projected tax cuts will stimulate the economy and that inflation is under control. Some investors do not, of course, agree.

They regard the present rise in stock prices as a bear market rally that will run out of steam about the 840 mark unless interest rates fall rapidly. But, the more optimistic note that although the Dow hit 840 last week there was still demand for equities.

Investors are likely to be further heartened this week by news, announced when the markets were closed for Easter, that the money supply rose only \$500m (£505m) for the latest reporting week. That rise, lower than had been anticipated, is interpreted to be that the Federal Reserve Bank has the nation's money supply under control and will not have to tighten its policy, a fact that could lead to lower interest rates in the coming months.

Much of the activity on the market last week was attributed to increased participation by cash-rich insurance companies, bank trust departments and other institutional investors.

Last week's trading was marked by the second biggest block trade in the history of New York Stock Exchange. Goldman Sachs handled the block of 4.5 million common shares of Houston Industries for the latest reporting week. That rise, lower than had been anticipated, is interpreted to be that the Federal Reserve Bank has the nation's money supply under control and will not have to tighten its policy, a fact that could lead to lower interest rates in the coming months.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	13%
Barclays	13%
BCCI	13%
Consolidated Crds	13%
C. Hoare & Co	13%
Lloyds Bank	13%
Midland Bank	13%
Nat Westminster	13%
TSB	13%
Williams & Glyn's	13%

* 7 day deposit on basis of £10,000 up to £50,000 11% £50,000 and over 11 1/2%

COMMODITIES

Copper cuts push prices up

A watershed in the gloomy metal markets was the news last week that Phelps Dodge, the second largest copper producer in the United States, was closing mines until at least the end of May. While smaller producers of the metals have been cutting production and laying off workers for several months, this is the first recorded time that such a major producer has closed mines completely. Copper prices rose sharply as a result.

Blame lies with the low level of economic activity worldwide in the motor, construction and capital goods industries. World industrial production fell by 1/4 per cent in 1980, and rose only 1/4 per cent last year.

While the London Business School, with other economic groups, is forecasting an improvement this year — of 1 per cent — this is not likely to materialize until the second half of the year.

In the 1976-77 copper slump the production cuts were nowhere near as sharp as they are now. Dean Witter Reynolds estimate that the United States copper industry is operating at only 55 to 60 per cent of capacity.

Copper producers cannot afford to hold on for the better times that may come on the horizon — they are losing too much money. Smith Barney, Harris Upham put Phelps Dodge's bread-eaten price at about 85 cents a pound — United States

producers now get only 74 cents a pound. Phelps Dodge is, therefore, expected to report quarterly losses of 50 cents to \$1 a share in the first and second quarters, making a loss for the full year against profits of \$3.12 last year.

Last week, Hudson Bay Mining and Codelco announced closures. But foreign producers, such as Chile, Peru, Zambia and Zaire have yet to curtail the production significantly.

Unhappily for so many of the producers, there are equally bad markets for the byproducts such as gold, silver and molybdenum.

Sally White

BROKERS' VIEWS

A way to bottle up recession

Rediffusion is rated a "buy" by both Phillips & Drew and Rowe & Pitman. Forecasts of this year's pretax profits from the two brokers differ with Rowe & Pitman £2m lower this year at £10m.

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Historically, Metal Closures, which makes bottle tops and other closures as well as flexible packaging and injection moulding, has proved adept at adjusting to recession.

Habitat-Mothercare is recommended as a "buy" by both Phillips & Drew and Rowe & Pitman. Forecasts of this year's pretax profit from the two brokers differ, with Rowe & Pitman £2m lower this year at £10m.

The Burton Group is being strongly recommended by Sheppards and Chase. At present the company's overall share of the clothing market is less than 3 per cent, it is growing rapidly in very difficult trading conditions.

Greenwells have turned their attention to Indonesian LNG production, and recommended switching from Ultramar to Alaska Interstate, and buying Allied Intermediate and Cambridge Petroleum. In the British pharmaceutical market, Glaxo is with 1982 pretax estimates up from 1981's £24m to £32.2m, and steady increases in dividends forecast.

CAPITAL MARKETS

A jolt for the Bulldog breed

The confrontation with Argentina over the Falkland Islands has dealt a blow to the London capital markets, including the increasingly popular Bulldog bonds.

In fact, Bulldog bonds — issued in the domestic British market by overseas borrowers — were affected by the pressures of the week to about the same extent as the long end of the gilt market.

Falls at the worst were of about £3. So far, falls of only a fraction of a pound.

The number of Bulldog bonds has been steadily increasing, and three have been added this year. Issues in the Euro-sterling market have also increased this year by four. But it is the Bulldog market that banks have expected to see burgeon, because it offers the rare feature of 20-year plus

European prices (yields and premiums)

Instrument	Price	Yield	Conv Price	Premium
10% Standard 1983	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1984	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1985	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1986	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1987	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1988	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1989	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1990	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1991	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1992	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1993	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1994	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1995	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1996	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1997	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1998	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1999	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 2000	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 2001	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 2002	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 2003	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 2004	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 2005	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 2006	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 2007	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 2008	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 2009	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 2010	100.0	7.50		

WEEKLY LIST OF FIXED-INTEREST STOCKS

Instrument	Price	Yield	Conv Price	Premium
10% Standard 1983	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1984	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1985	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1986	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1987	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1988	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1989	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1990	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1991	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1992	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1993	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1994	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1995	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1996	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1997	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1998	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 1999	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 2000	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 2001	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 2002	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 2003	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 2004	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 2005	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 2006	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 2007	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 2008	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 2009	100.0	7.50		
10% Standard 2010	100.0	7.50		

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The Over-the-Counter Market

Company	Change	Price	Volume	P/E	Dividend
1,283 A&P Ind Cals	129	10.0	7.8	—	—
4,226 Airsprung Group	73	4.7	6.4	11.6	16.0
1,100 Armitage & Rhodes	44	1.3	9.3	3.7	8.3
12,159 Bardon Hill	199	2.7	4.9	9.7	11.8
1,325 CCL 11% Conv Pref	106	1.7	14.8	—	—
4,720 Deborux Services	61	8.7	7.6	8.4	10.6
3,384 Frank Horrell	125	6.4	1.1	12.3	8.6
11,124 Frederick Parker	77	1.1	6.0	3.3	7.5
996 George Blair	54	1.1	—	—	—
3,899 Ind Prec Castings	96	1.7	7.3	6.9	10.4
2,592 Isis Conv Pref	108	1.7	15.7	14.5	—
2,454 Jackson Group	115	7.0	7.2	3.1	6.9
15,872 James Partridge	61	8.7	7.6	8.4	10.6
2,488 Robert Jenkins	242	2.7	13.9	2.4	8.6
3,180 Scruttons "A"	63	1.1	5.3	8.4	9.7
3,881 Torbay & Carlisle	159	10.7	6.7	5.1	9.5
2,855 Twinkl Oak	134	1.4	—	—	—
2,184 Twinkl 15% UL5	80	15.0	18.8	—	—
3,015 Unilever Holdings	25	1.0	12.0	4.5	7.6
10,013 Walter Alexander	73	1.1	6.4	1.1	9.2
5,588 W. S. Yates	230	14.5	6.3	6.0	12.0

Prices now available on Prestel, page 48146

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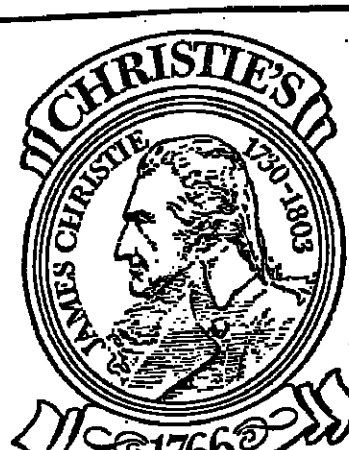
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Friday, 16 April, 11 a.m. SILVER AND PLATE Illustrated catalogue £1 by post

Monday, 19 April, 2 p.m. FURNITURE, CARPETS AND OBJECTS

Monday, 19 April, 2 p.m. OIL PAINTINGS

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Edited by Peter Dear

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<p>9.55 The Wombles. Another tale from the Wimbledon underworld (7). 10.00 Jecknory. Bernard Cribbins reads part two of The Spiral Stair by Joan Aiken (7). 10.15 Lasse in the Legend of the Coyote (7). 10.35 Why Don't You...? Children from Bristol with ideas for young people on holiday. 11.00 Close Down. 12.30 News Afternoon with Richard Whitmore and Moira Stuart. Weather prospects from Anne Purvis. 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only). Financial report and news headlines with subtitles. 1.00 Pebble Mill at One includes a discussion on the future role of the family in society. 1.45 The Flumps. A See Saw programme for the very young (7). 2.00 Film: The Goose Steps Out (1942) starring Will Hay. Schoolmaster William Potts is mistaken for German spy and becomes an agent for the British. 3.15 Series of Prizes from Wella Cathedral introduced by Geoffrey Wheeler (7). 3.53 Regional news (not London).</p>	<p>11.00 Play School. For the under fives. 11.25 Close Down. 3.40 Film: The Girl of the Golden West (1935) starring Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy. A pretty saloon owner falls for a handsome, singing bandit, much to the chagrin of the local sheriff (Walter Pidgeon).</p>  <p>David Janssen: BBC 1 11.05pm</p> <p>3.55 Play School. For the under-fives (shown earlier on BBC2).</p> <p>4.20 The All New Popeye Show. Three cartoons starring the indestructible lecher.</p> <p>4.40 The Record Breakers with Roy Castle and Norris McWhirter (7).</p> <p>5.05 Newsround with Paul McDowell.</p> <p>5.10 Break in the Sm. The final episode and a special anniversary. 1.45 The Flumps. A See Saw programme for the very young (7). 2.00 Film: The Goose Steps Out (1942) starring Will Hay. Schoolmaster William Potts is mistaken for German spy and becomes an agent for the British. 3.15 Series of Prizes from Wella Cathedral introduced by Geoffrey Wheeler (7). 3.53 Regional news (not London).</p>	<p>9.30 World Famous Fairy Tales: The Farmer who became a Housewife. 9.45 Wild World of the Animals. Spiders (7). 10.10 Cartoon: The Three Musketeers (7). 10.35 The Paint Along with Nancy (7). 11.15 The Bubbles. 12.00 Button Moon (7). 12.10 Let's Pretend. For the very young. 12.30 The Sullivan. Drama serial about an Australian family during World War Two. 1.00 News with Peter Sissons. 1.20 Thames News. 1.30 Crown Court: On the Defensive. John Harper, an Army deserter, is accused of harming a small boy. 2.00 For Christ's Sake. A discussion on the law of blasphemy between Mary Whitehouse and the Dean of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, Keith Ward. In the chair is Anna Ford. 2.25 Racing from Newmarket. Brought Scott introduces the Swifham Handicap (2.30); Ladbrooke Handicap (3.00) and the Crown Stakes (3.30). 3.45 Home Sweet Home. Enzo meets an old sweetheart.</p> <p>4.15 Cartoon: Road Runner in There They Go-Go.</p> <p>4.20 On Safari in the studio with Garath Hunt and Christopher Biggins.</p> <p>4.45 CS TV - Channel 4. News, views and ideas for young people.</p> <p>5.15 The Bread Bunch. Working in an ice-cream parlour. The Bread Bunch. Working in an ice-cream parlour. The Bread Bunch. Working in an ice-cream parlour.</p> <p>5.45 News.</p> <p>6.00 Thames news.</p> <p>6.25 Crossroads. Sharon McElwaine is menaced by Eddie Lee.</p> <p>7.00 Horace. The start of a twice-weekly series about a middle-aged man with the mind of a child. Starring Barry Jackson as the unfortunate Horace.</p> <p>7.30 Give Us a Clue. Celebrity mime game between two teams - one captained by Una Stubbs, the other by Lionel Blair. Playing for Una are Liz Fraser, Denise Nolan and Victoria Wood. For Lionel Richard O'Sullivan, Lance Percival and Wayne Sleep. In the chair is Michael Aspel.</p> <p>8.00 Sorry, I'm a Stranger Here Myself. Whither Henry. This first in a new series finds a dithering Henry contemplating a return to his wife and away from the prying eyes of the Stacksy villagers.</p> <p>8.30 The Morecombe and Wise Show with guest Gammie Craven (7).</p>	<p>6.00 News Briefing.</p> <p>6.10 Farming Week.</p> <p>6.30 Today in London. Ray.</p> <p>6.45 Prayer for the Day.</p> <p>7.00 Today's News.</p> <p>7.30 News Headlines.</p> <p>7.45 The World of the Day.</p> <p>8.43 The Richard Scudlark Letters: A bundle of enigmas (7).</p> <p>8.57 Weather and Travel.</p> <p>9.00 News.</p> <p>9.05 Thursday Call: 01-560 4411.</p> <p>9.20 News.</p> <p>10.00 News.</p> <p>10.05 From Our Own Correspondent. BBC correspondents talk about the countries in which they work.</p> <p>10.30 Daily Service.</p> <p>10.45 Morning Show: "Knowledge is my business" by Brian MacCabe.</p> <p>11.00 News and Travel.</p> <p>11.03 Play: "Sunday Outing" by Matthew Sweeney.</p> <p>11.33 Wildlife. A team of naturalists answer listeners' questions.</p> <p>12.00 News.</p> <p>12.02 You and Yours.</p> <p>12.27 Detective. Stories of crime and detection.</p> <p>12.30 Brooklyns plays Ed and Brooke in "Four Faces of Crime".</p> <p>12.55 Weather and Travel.</p> <p>1.40 The Archers.</p> <p>2.00 News.</p> <p>2.02 Women's Hour.</p> <p>3.00 News and Travel.</p> <p>3.02 Ann Veronica by H. G. Wells. A radio play dramatization (Part 2).</p> <p>4.00 News.</p> <p>4.02 Edward Elgar reflects on walking.</p> <p>4.10 The Vicar's Wife. Six women reflect on their lives in the modern village.</p> <p>4.40 Story Time: "Z for Zachary" by Robert O'Brien, in 7 parts.</p> <p>5.00 PM: News Magazine.</p> <p>5.55 Weather and Programme News.</p> <p>6.00 News.</p> <p>6.30 Brain of Britain 1982 (7).</p> <p>7.00 News.</p>	<p>7.05 The Archers.</p> <p>7.20 Medicine Now. A report on the state of medical care.</p> <p>7.50 Animal Language (11) "Repercussions: Overt and Covert" a look at the beautiful and complex patterns of birdsong (7).</p> <p>8.20 Great Gallipoli Gossip. Glimpses of the warlike life of the composer, Louis Moreau Gottschalk (1829-1869).</p> <p>9.05 In Touch. Magazine for the blind.</p> <p>9.30 Kaleidoscope.</p> <p>9.55 Weather.</p> <p>10.00 The World Tonight.</p> <p>10.30 And So to Bed (new series). Late night conversation and music, with Ned Sherrin.</p> <p>11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "The Ambassador" by Kate Chopin (7).</p> <p>11.15 The Financial World Tonight.</p> <p>11.30 Chamber of Horrors. Reports of the most famous groups of the past 400 years.</p> <p>12.00 News.</p> <p>12.02 Weather.</p> <p>12.05 VHF with above except as follows: 6.25-6.30 am Weather and Travel. 6.30-6.45 am News. 6.45-6.55 am News. 6.55-7.00 am News. 7.00-7.10 am News. 7.10-7.20 am News. 7.20-7.30 am News. 7.30-7.40 am News. 7.40-7.50 am News. 7.50-8.00 am News. 8.00-8.10 am News. 8.10-8.20 am News. 8.20-8.30 am News. 8.30-8.40 am News. 8.40-8.50 am News. 8.50-9.00 am News. 9.00-9.10 am News. 9.10-9.20 am News. 9.20-9.30 am News. 9.30-9.40 am News. 9.40-9.50 am News. 9.50-10.00 am News. 10.00-10.10 am News. 10.10-10.20 am News. 10.20-10.30 am News. 10.30-10.40 am News. 10.40-10.50 am News. 10.50-11.00 am News. 11.00-11.10 am News. 11.10-11.20 am News. 11.20-11.30 am News. 11.30-11.40 am News. 11.40-11.50 am News. 11.50-12.00 am News. 12.00-12.10 am News. 12.10-12.20 am News. 12.20-12.30 am News. 12.30-12.40 am News. 12.40-12.50 am News. 12.50-1.00 am News. 1.00-1.10 am News. 1.10-1.20 am News. 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Pledge of action by teachers on pay arbitration

By Richard Garner of The Times Educational Supplement

A teachers' leader said yesterday that there would be immediate industrial action in schools if the Government refused to accept the recommendations of an independent arbitration hearing on their pay claim.

Mr Ronald Winters, chairman of the salaries committee of the National Union of Teachers (NUT), said at the union's annual conference in Scarborough: "If there is any attempt to interfere with the independence of the arbitration, our action will be immediate and strong and united".

The teachers' claim for a pay increase in line with inflation (now about 11 per cent) went to arbitration two weeks ago when local education authorities refused to increase an original offer of 3.4 per cent. Attempts by the local authorities to increase that offer were vetoed by representatives of the Department of Education and Science (DES) at a meeting of the management side of the Burnham Committee, which negotiates teachers' pay.

Under the Remuneration of Teachers Act, 1965, the Government has power to set aside an arbitration award to teachers by introducing a Bill to that effect in both Houses of Parliament.

Mr Winters, speaking during a debate on the NUT's salary policy for next year, added: "There are some in our profession who hold up their hands in pious horror when we resort to action, but they are always ready to hold out their hands to receive their share of the money we gain."

"Of course we are a caring and responsible profession. We have always had a traditional reluctance to take action which will inevitably affect the schools in which we work. But that care and responsibility that we show has never been seen by our employers or any government as a virtue to be rewarded but rather as a weakness to be exploited."

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, was accused at the conference of encouraging a "surreptitious" return to secondary modern grammar school divisions within the comprehensive system.

general secretary, said: "It is quite clear that this Government would like to wage a determined attack on our system of comprehensive education." He said there was clear evidence that Sir Keith intended to use his powers, whenever the opportunity arose "to encourage a surreptitious return to the old secondary modern and grammar school division under the umbrella of the comprehensive system".

Mr Jarvis said the threat to the nation's education service was far more serious now than it had been in living memory and said that if the Government's policy remained unchanged, "We will not have an education system with a decent standard of provision and capable of fulfilling all the great promise held out by the 1944 Education Act."

Delegates voted overwhelmingly in favour of a motion calling for an inquiry into discrimination in employment against black school leavers and urging opposition to racialism in schools, but which stopped short of asking union members to refuse to work with alleged racists.

A member of the union's executive - was forced to apologise for a muddle over a vote changing the decision by Mr Alfred Budd, union president, to declare out of order a motion calling on the union to affiliate to the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament and to support unilateral disarmament. The mix-up led to delegates having to wait more than 50 hours to hear the result.

Mr Peter Cotgrove, chairman of the scrutineers' committee for the conference and executive member for Essex, said in a letter to Mr Budd that he was read out the 1,800 delegates that there had been a "mishap" in the counting of the votes.

Delegates voted against Mr Budd's ruling by 119,475 to 107,045 and Mr Budd said he accepted the majority view. The debate is to be slotted into the conference timetable at the earliest opportunity.

Delegates refused to suspend standing orders to debate an emergency motion on the Falkland Islands which called on the Government to withdraw the naval task force.



Dr Robert Runcie, the Archbishop of Canterbury, also met several hundred young pilgrims from the South-east yesterday. He talked with them over a picnic lunch at the Cathedral and answered questions.

Peace campaigners ask church for support

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

More than a thousand peace demonstrators occupied the nave of Canterbury Cathedral yesterday to present Dr Robert Runcie, the Archbishop, with letters appealing for his support.

Miss Joan Ruddock, national chairman of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, told Dr Runcie that the British Government had rejected the proposals for progressive disarmament of a 22-nation non-aligned group at the United Nations.

A special session of the UN General Assembly on world disarmament will open in June.

"Therefore, we turn to the leaders of our community like yourself, believing that the Church has a very special concern for peace," she said. Dr Runcie said he would study the hundreds of letters

that the demonstrators had given him.

"You have come because you find in Canterbury and in this building, a symbol of peace," he told the demonstrators. "The Christian church must be united in protesting against a world where so much is spent on armaments and preparations for war."

Earlier, the demonstration, organized by CND, the World Disarmament Movement, and the United Nations Association, had paraded through Canterbury with banners, rallying at the city walls, for addresses.

Miss Ruddock told the rally that the Falkland Islands crisis showed how fast a military confrontation could develop in the modern world.

Junta denies holding Marines

Continued from page 1

Military preparations are being made for the arrival of the British Fleet.

Argentine sources claimed that the runway at Port Stanley was long enough for Mirage jets to land and take off and further claimed that a number of the fighters were parked on the runway and ready for combat. The runway was built by the Argentine under a contract with Britain in 1971 to provide a regular air link to Argentina. There is no confirmation of this claim.

The Junta refused to confirm today that it had withdrawn most of its military ships to safe areas in the South Atlantic in response to Britain's threat to sink any naval vessels found within a 200-mile radius of the Falklands.

But sources said some ships were standing by in shallow water where it would

be dangerous for a submarine to penetrate. They were said to be within easy reach of the Air Force and the Fleet Air Arm.

Reports from the southern Argentine port of Comodoro Rivadavia said there were incessant comings and goings of aircraft. Señor Nelson Dames, the local civil defence leader, said callers were being fitted out and provisioned as shelters in case of attacks by British forces.

The local hospital, which now has a large red cross painted on the roof, has been fitted out as an emergency centre for wounded soldiers.

The military junta today dismissed reports that it might hold 22 British Marines as hostages. The Marines, with 13 civilians, were captured in the Falklands dependency of South Georgia on April 3 and have not been seen since. A Government

Negotiated settlement 'almost certain'

Continued from page 1

sovereignty or a United Nations presence.

The senior Tory MP also joined Mr Pym in emphasizing the need for a settlement to be acceptable to the islanders.

Certainly, there seemed little danger last night that the Foreign Secretary was moving out of step with his own backbenchers.

One right-wing Conservative MP, Mr Anthony Marlow, member for Northampton, North, agreed that the wishes of the islanders should be a key to any settlement, as it had been during 15 years of negotiation.

Mr Marlow also said that the possibility of "lancing the boil" had raised his own hopes that a settled future for the islands may now open the way to a development of resources around the islands, something which had hitherto been blocked by the festering dispute with Argentina.

Dr Owen said in his radio interview: "Presumably, if a United Nations peace keeping force were to be there at all, even a United Nations presence, they would have a flag, and if the British Government were to be there, administering the islands on behalf of Britain, there would be a British flag. I suppose it is probably liveable with that some Argentinean flag flies there."

Dr Owen added, however: "What I don't think any Government could accept is the Argentinean flag flying, because that would be an assumption that British sovereignty had been conceded, and we would not be prepared to do that."

He said that a negotiated settlement was now "almost certain reality". The only danger was that British public opinion should become more hawkish; more tough-minded than that of the islanders themselves.

"I don't want the Falkland islanders conceding anything under duress," he explained. "But I do believe there is a sense of realism amongst the Falkland islanders. They are going to have to live in the Southern Atlantic, they are going to be dependent on Argentina, for communications and many links."

"I believe they are realistic enough to know that out of this is going to have to come some settled relationship between the Falkland Islands and Argentina."

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements
Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother attends a gala concert given by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra at the Royal Albert Hall, 7.20.
New exhibitions
Peter Moore's Liverpool Project 6 - Art into the 80's including work by Henry Moore, Matza, Ben Johnson, Harry Holland and John Bellamy. Fruit Market Gallery, 29 Market Street, Edinburgh. Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, closed Sun; (from today until April 24)
Drawings and prints by Stephanie Fryer; Stafford Museum and Art Gallery, The Green, Stafford; (from today until May 23)

Last chance to see
Photographs by Raymond Moore, RPS National Centre of Photography, The Octagon, Milson Street, Bath; 10 to 4.45; (ends today)

Embroideries from Gujarat and Rajasthan - an exhibition in conjunction with The Festival of the Arts of India, Sheffield City Museum, Weston Park, Sheffield; 10 to 5; (ends today)

Talks, films
Colour in the garden, talk with slides by Stuart Cave, Manners Street Baptist Church, Bath, 7.
Sargent, by Richard Humphreys, Tate Gallery, 1.
Animal Camouflage, by Steve Pollard, Natural History Museum, 3.
Films: Florence - the restoration of books (1), Botticelli - the story of spring (2), both at National Gallery, 12, both at 11.30 and 1.15; both by George Hart, British Museum.

Not So Dusty: a selection of music presented by Dick Johnson, Carshalton Library, The Square, Carshalton, Sutton, 8.
Cornel Music Group recital, Southwark Cathedral, 1.10 pm.
Recital by Gilbert Towland (Barpschor), Purcell Room, South Bank, 3.30.

Concert by the Baroque Strings, Zurich, Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, 7.45.
Concert by Luciano Pavarotti (tenor), with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Royal Albert Hall, 7.30.
Organ recital by Andrew Goodwin, Bangor Cathedral, 1.15.

Walks
Ghosts of the City meet St Paul's Underground, 7.30.
Jack the Ripper Murders 1888, meet Augustus East Underground (Art Gallery Exit), 7.30

Sporting fixtures
Football: Five first division matches, two second, three third and three fourth. See page 13.
Racing: Flat meetings at Newmarket (2.0) and Warwick (2.15). NH at Cheltenham (2.0), Wetherby (2.0) and Uttoxeter (2.0). See page 14.
Rugby Union: Newport v Barbarians (3.15).

Locomotive loan
Gladstone, a steam locomotive built 100 years ago at Brighton, has been lent by the National Railway Museum at York for display on the privately-run Bluebell Railway in Sussex, which is celebrating the centenary of the Lewes-East Grinstead line.

The locomotive, designed by William Stroudley, the railway engineer, was introduced in 1882 for running between London and the South Coast.

Anniversaries
Thomas Jefferson, third president of the United States, Shadwell, Va, 1743; Richard Trevithick, engineer, Illogan, Cornwall, 1771; F W Woolwarth, Rodman, New York, 1852.
Secessionists take Fort Sumter, Charleston, West Virginia - the beginning of the American Civil War, 1861.

Classical best-sellers
Best-selling records last week were:
1. Beethoven: Violin concerto, Perlman (HMV ASD4059).
2. Holst: The Planets, Karajan (DG2582019).
3. The Legendary Hollywood String Quartet (HMV RLS765).
4. Dvorak: Cello Concerto, Cohen (CFP40361).
5. Strauss: Alpine Symphony, Karajan (DG2582015).
6. Poulenc: Les Biches Suite, Pretre (HMV ASD4067).
7. Mahler: Symphony No 2, Solli (Decca D22902).
8. Sibelius: Symphony No 5, Ashkenazy (Decca SXDL7451).
9. Mendelssohn/Violin Concerto, Muller (DG2582015).
10. Walton: Symphony No 1, Haitink (HMV ASD4091).

Roads
London and the South-east:
The Automobile Association advises that various roadworks cause delays on the A40 Western Avenue between Ealing and Uxbridge. From 9 am until 4 pm the centre lane of both carriageways of the M23 will be closed for maintenance work. Watch out between junctions 10 and 11 near Crawley.
Wales and the West:
Subsidence at Holywell, Clwyd. Only half road open, serious delays. Use (A58) coast road or (A48) via Oswestry.
Roadworks at Three Mile Cross roundabout, diversion for west-bound traffic, eastbound speed limit 30 mph.
Stratford, A40: Two-way traffic on one carriageway at peak times between Gloucester and Ross-on-Wye.

The North: A100 and A66(M) north of Scotch Corner to junction with A68 and full length of A66(M) north Yorkshire, occasional lane closures.

Scotland: A77: Kilmarnock Road, near Auldhouse road each way. A8: North of Blair Atholl resurfacing. A92: Closed between junctions 10 and 11 near Glasgow.

Family centre
There are many activities of interest for children and parents at the Natural History Museum's family centre.

Activities include quizzes, bank robbers and looking through microscopes. There are also natural history specimens, such as bones, fossils, and stuffed birds, which visitors can inspect and handle. Workbooks can be obtained at a small charge for children to use in the galleries.

The centre is open until April 24, 10.30 to 12.30, and from 2.00pm to 4.00pm. It is closed on Sundays and Mondays. Entrance is free and the museum is in Cromwell Road, London SW7.

The Pound
Bank Bank Bank
Austria Sch 31.35 29.35
Belgium Fr 32.00 27.00
Canada \$ 2.23 2.14
Denmark Kr 12.10 10.30
France Fr 11.48 10.18
Germany DM 4.42 4.17
Greece Dr 115.00 108.00
Hong Kong \$ 10.70 10.10
Ireland £ 1.26 1.21
Italy Lit 2375.00 2275.00
Japan Yn 458.00 432.00
Netherlands Gld 4.88 4.62
Norway Kr 11.16 10.56
Portugal Esc 131.00 124.00
Sth Africa Rd 2.20 2.04
Spain Pta 160.75 151.75
Sweden Kr 10.88 10.30
Switzerland Fr 3.62 3.40
USA \$ 1.21 1.14
Yugoslav Dnr 65.50 60.50

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Yesterday
Temperatures at midday yesterday: C, 14 to 16; F, 57 to 61. Wind: 10 to 15 mph. Rain: 1.0 to 1.5 in.

Sea passages: S. North Sea: Wind: NW, fresh or strong; sea: rough. Straits of Dover: Wind: N, moderate or fresh; sea: rough. English Channel (E. St George's Channel, Irish Sea): Wind: mainly N, light or moderate; sea: slight.

Lighting up time
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Edinburgh 6.45 pm to 6.51 pm
Glasgow 6.42 pm to 6.52 pm

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Austria Sch 31.35 29.35
Belgium Fr 32.00 27.00
Canada \$ 2.23 2.14
Denmark Kr 12.10 10.30
France Fr 11.48 10.18
Germany DM 4.42 4.17
Greece Dr 115.00 108.00
Hong Kong \$ 10.70 10.10
Ireland £ 1.26 1.21
Italy Lit 2375.00 2275.00
Japan Yn 458.00 432.00
Netherlands Gld 4.88 4.62
Norway Kr 11.16 10.56
Portugal Esc 131.00 124.00
Sth Africa Rd 2.20 2.04
Spain Pta 160.75 151.75
Sweden Kr 10.88 10.30
Switzerland Fr 3.62 3.40
USA \$ 1.21 1.14
Yugoslav Dnr 65.50 60.50

Weather

Pressure will remain high over Britain but frontal troughs will move E across N Scotland

6 am to midnight

London, SE, central S England, E Anglia, Midlands: Mainly dry, sunny intervals; wind variable, mainly NW, light or moderate; max temp, 9 to 11C (48 to 52F).

E. central N. England: Mainly dry, bright periods; wind mainly W, light or moderate; max temp, 8 to 9C (46 to 48F).

Cheshire, Lancashire, SW England, S Wales: Mainly dry, sunny intervals; wind variable, light or moderate; max temp, 10 to 12C (50 to 54F).

N. Wales, NW England, Lake District: Mainly dry, sunny intervals; wind variable, light or moderate; max temp, 8 to 9C (46 to 48F).

SW Scotland, Glasgow, central Highlands: Mainly dry, bright periods; wind variable, light or moderate; max temp, 8 to 9C (46 to 48F).

SW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Rather cloudy, some rain at first, becoming drier; wind W or SW, moderate or fresh; locally strong; max temp, 8 to 10C (46 to 50F).

Argyll, NW Scotland, N. Ireland: Bright intervals, becoming cloudy with occasional rain; wind SW, moderate increasing fresh, locally strong; max temp, 9 to 11C (48 to 52F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Rain and showers at first, mainly in the N, otherwise mainly dry.

SEA PASSAGES: S. North Sea: Wind: NW, fresh or strong; sea: rough. Straits of Dover: Wind: N, moderate or fresh; sea: rough. English Channel (E. St George's Channel, Irish Sea): Wind: mainly N, light or moderate; sea: slight.

Lighting up time
London 6.22 pm to 6.56 pm
Edinburgh 6.45 pm to 6.51 pm
Glasgow 6.42 pm to 6.52 pm

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London
Temp: max 7 to 9 pm, 100°F; min 7 to 9 pm, 50°F (41°F). Humidity: 7 pm, 55 to 70 per cent. Wind: 24 to 7 pm, 10 to 15 mph. Rain: 10 to 12 pm, 1.0 to 1.5 in. Rain: 1.0 to 1.5 in. Rain: 1.0 to 1.5 in.

Yesterday
Temperatures at midday yesterday: C, 14 to 16; F, 57 to 61. Wind: 10 to 15 mph. Rain: 1.0 to 1.5 in.

Sea passages: S. North Sea: Wind: NW, fresh or strong; sea: rough. Straits of Dover: Wind: N, moderate or fresh; sea: rough. English Channel (E. St George's Channel, Irish Sea): Wind: mainly N, light or moderate; sea: slight.

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